

# THUNDER MASK

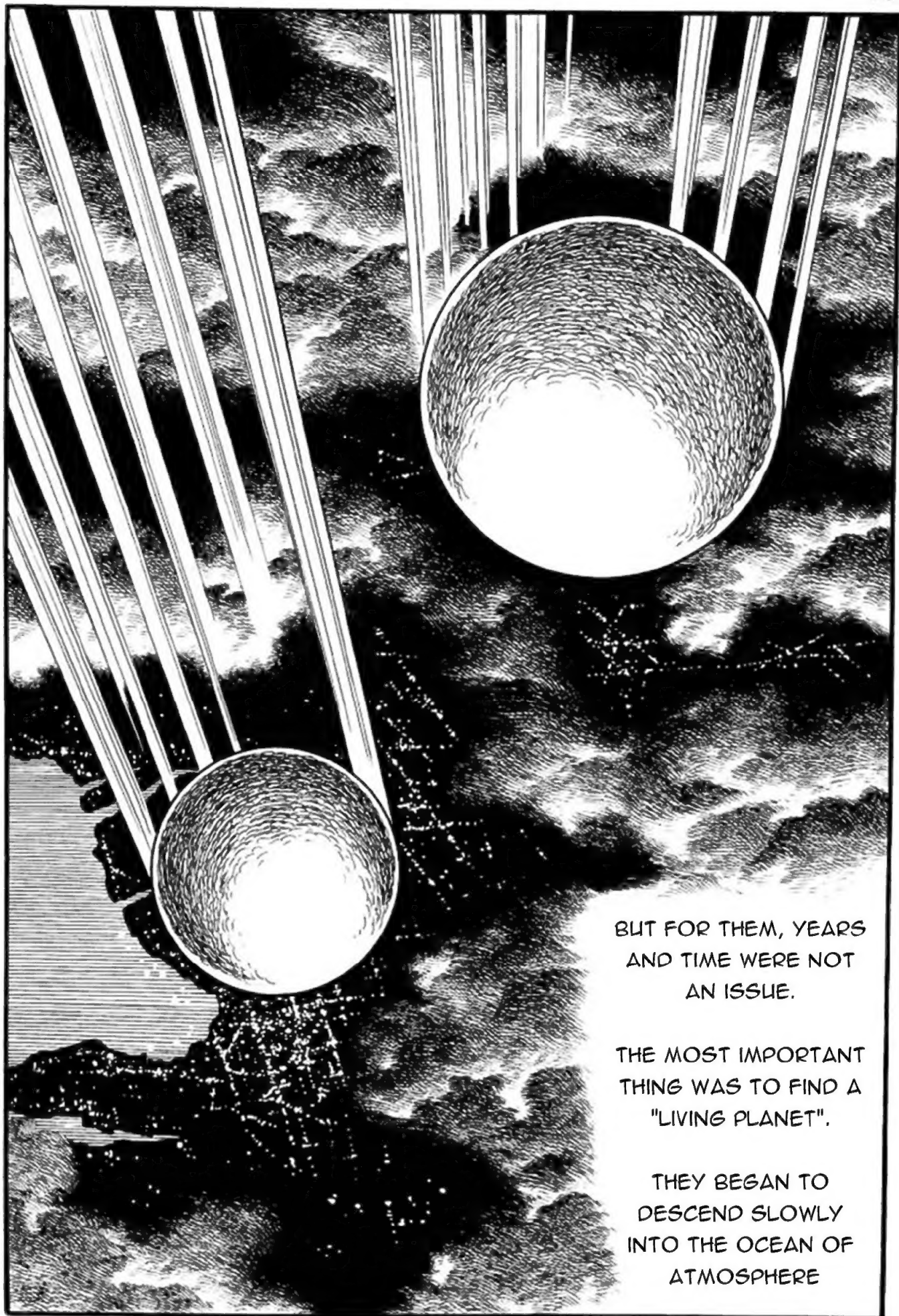
OSAMU TEZUKA





THEY APPROACHED  
THE THIRD PLANET  
OF THE SUN, AFTER  
A JOURNEY OF TEN  
THOUSAND YEARS



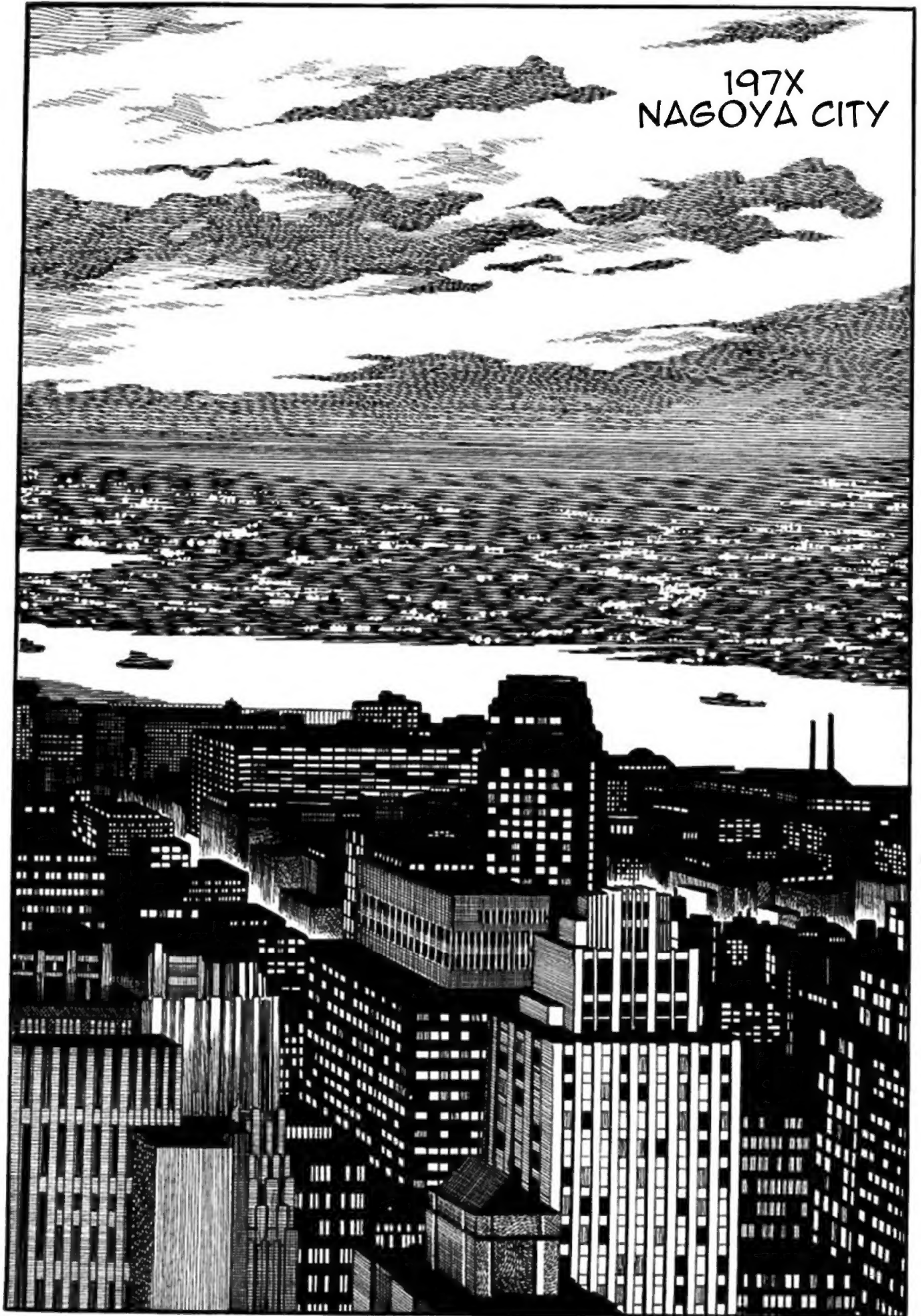


BUT FOR THEM, YEARS  
AND TIME WERE NOT  
AN ISSUE.

THE MOST IMPORTANT  
THING WAS TO FIND A  
"LIVING PLANET".

THEY BEGAN TO  
DESCEND SLOWLY  
INTO THE OCEAN OF  
ATMOSPHERE

197X  
NAGOYA CITY











I WONDER  
WHAT TIME  
WE'LL BE ABLE  
TO GET TO  
OSAKA NOW

OH DEAR.  
I'M LATE FOR A  
CONVENTION IN  
NAGOYA

I'VE HEARD THAT  
THERE ARE A LOT OF  
ACCIDENTS ON THE  
MEISHIN EXPRESSWAY  
AT NIGHT, SO  
I'M WORRIED

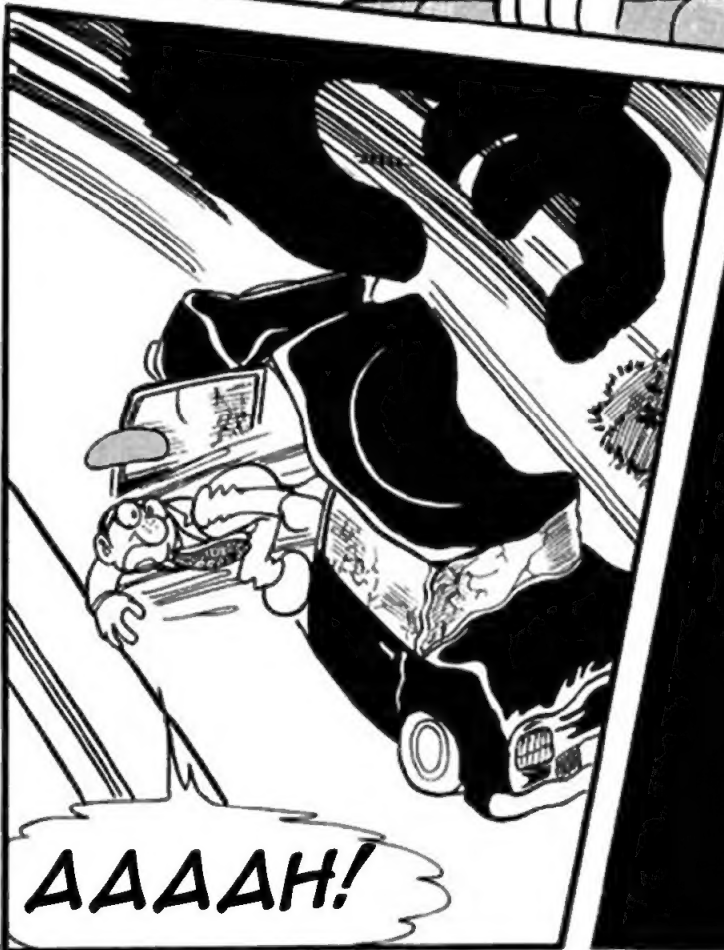
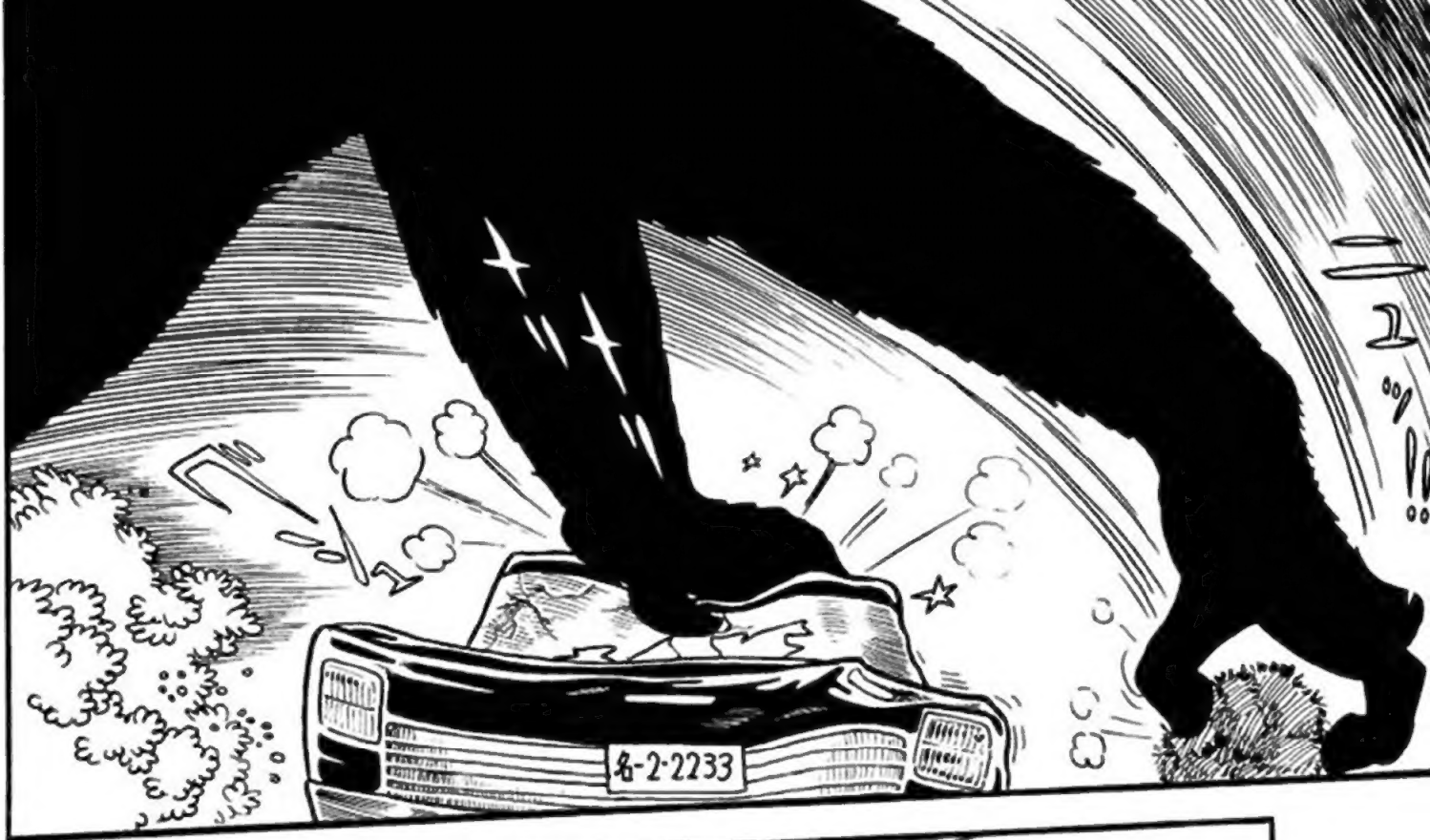
岐阜 30KM  
GIFU

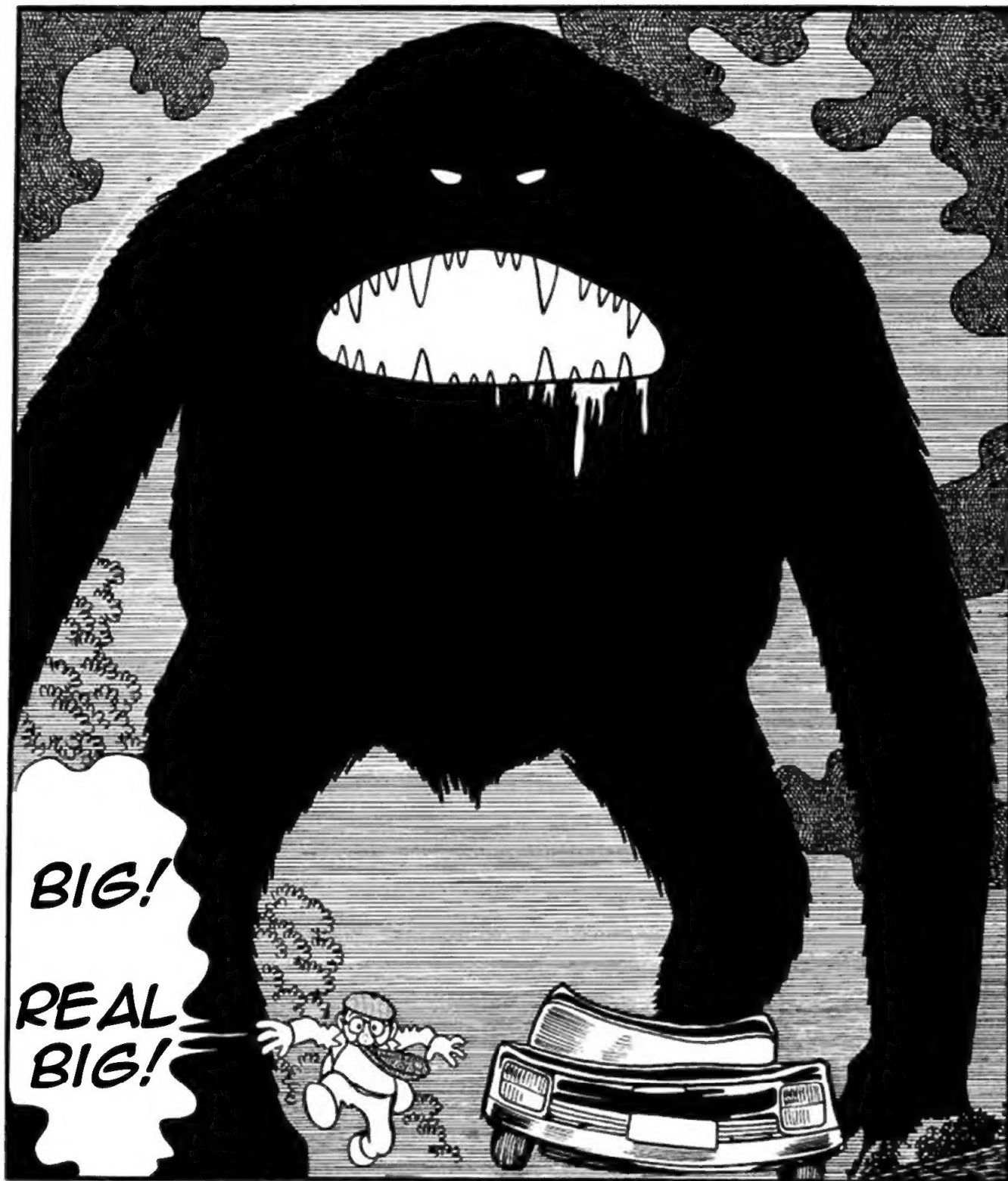
UH OH

ALSO  
I DON'T  
HAVE MY  
DRIVERS  
LICENSE

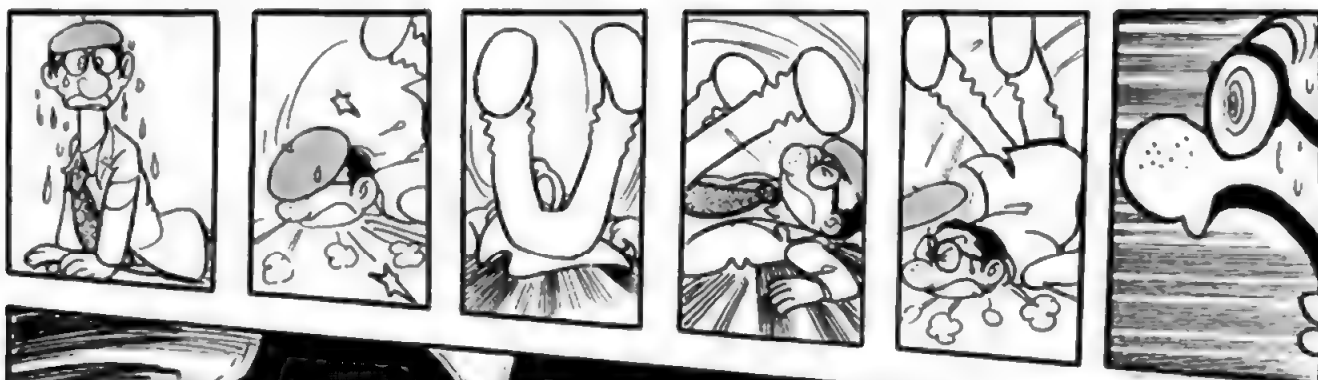












UM...  
IS THIS  
DR.  
TEZUKA?

B-BIG  
H-HANDS

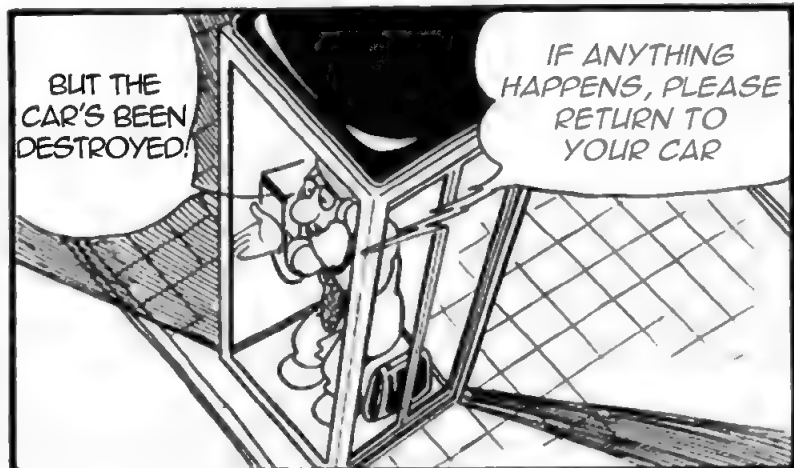
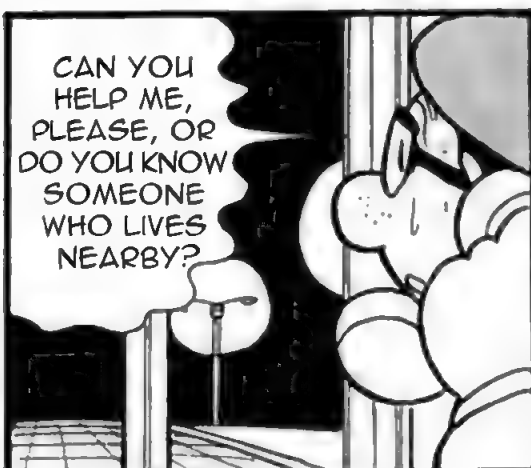
HELLO  
HELLO  
HELLO  
HELLO

S-SECRETARY  
OF T-THE  
N-NAGOYA  
CONFERENCE

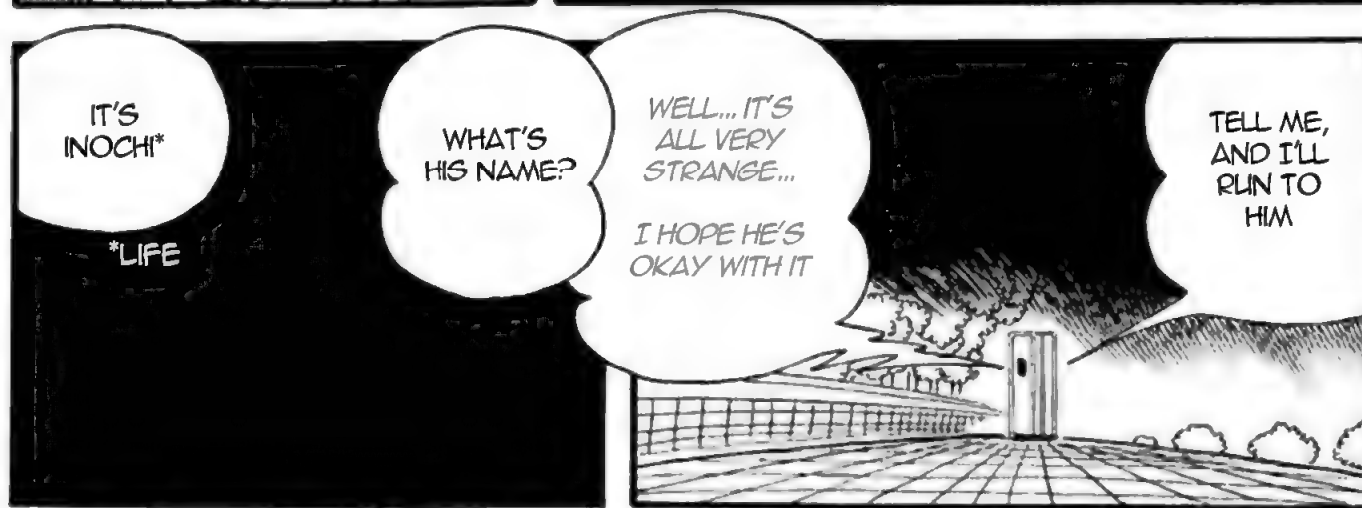


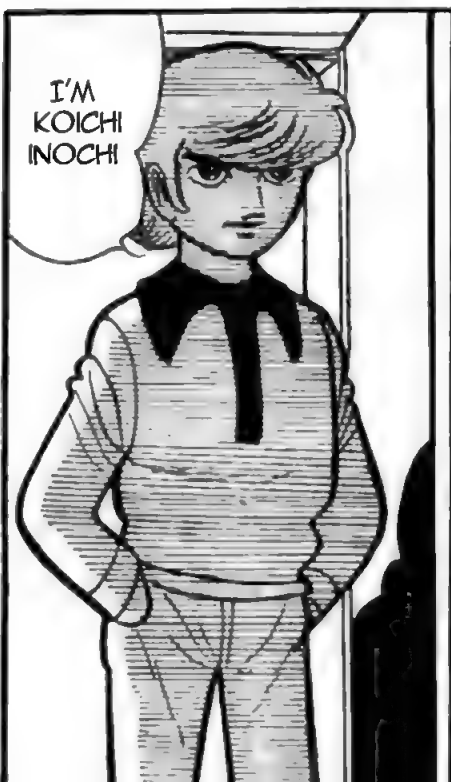


\*EMERGENCY NUMBER

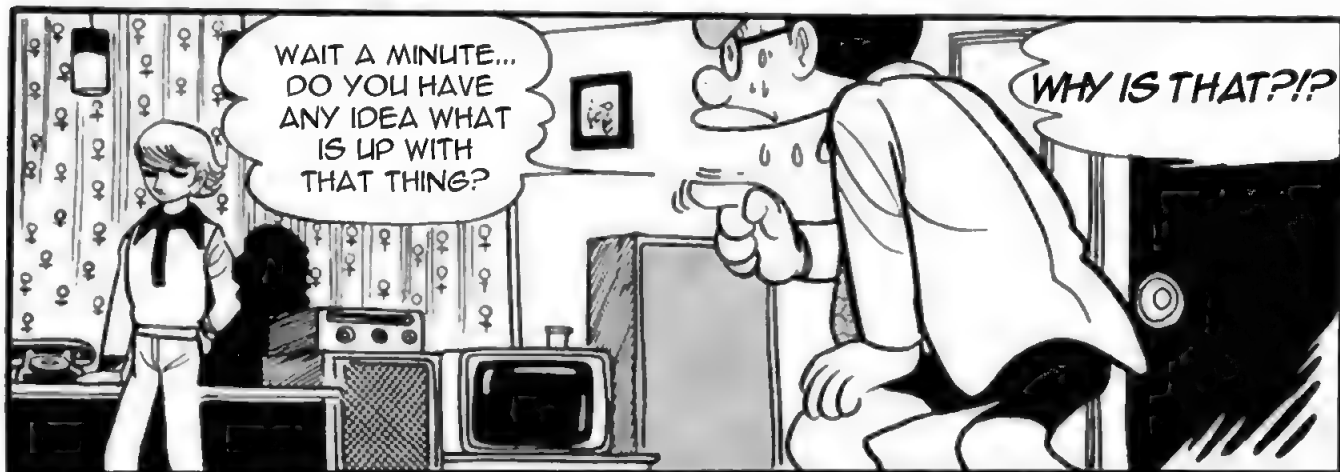
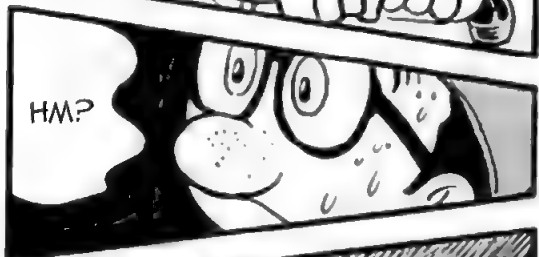


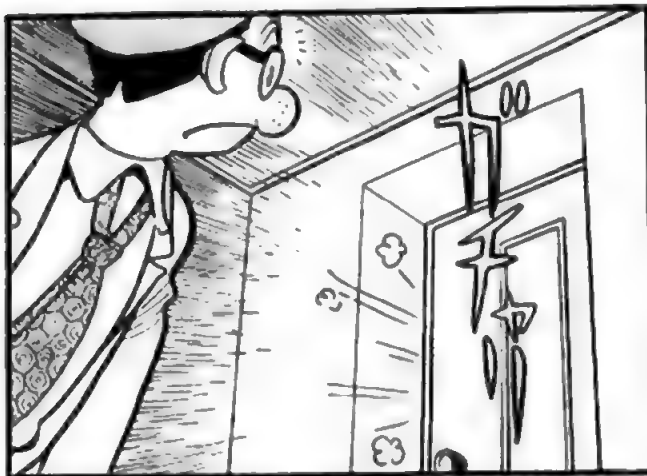
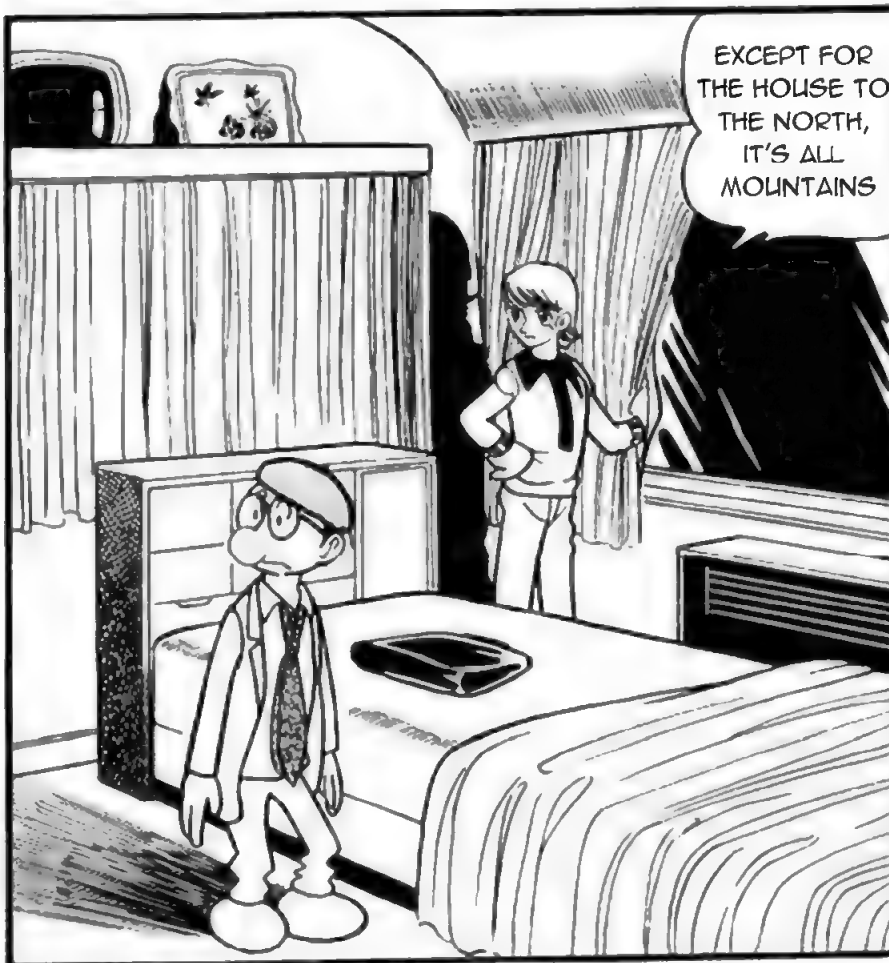


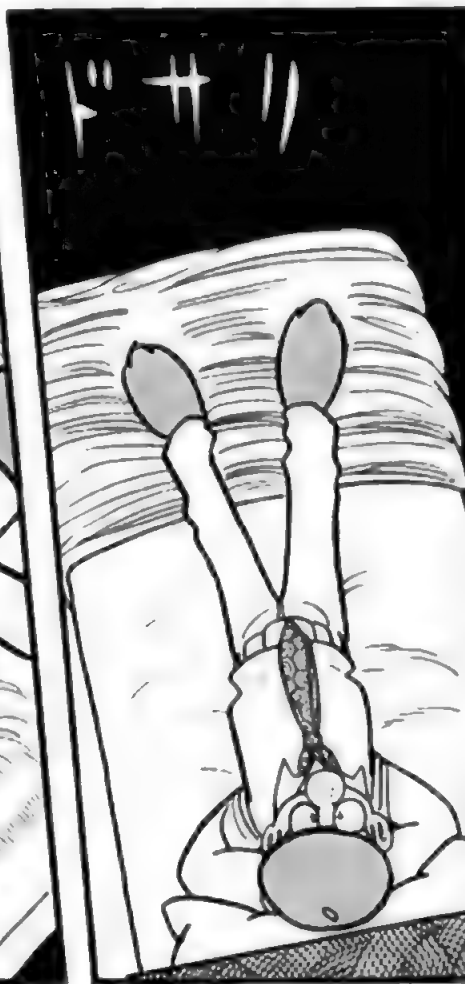


















OPEN UP!  
OPEN UP!  
OPEN UP!



WHAT KIND  
OF WEAPON  
DO I HAVE?

ALL I  
HAVE ARE  
MANGA



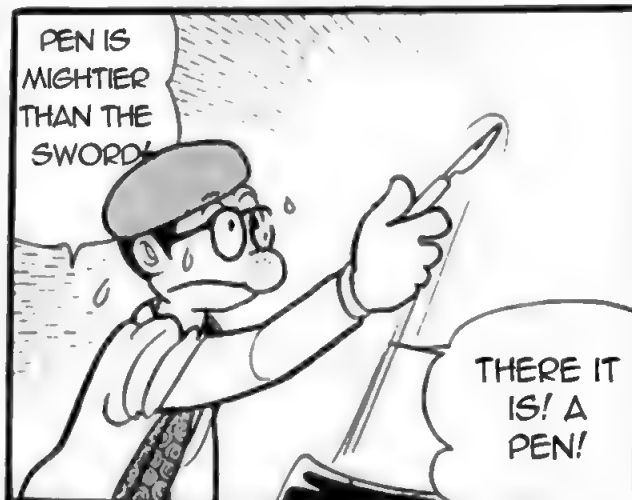
IT'S  
COMING!  
IT'S  
COMING!

THAT'S  
HIM!

OH...  
THAT GUY.  
WHAT'S HE GOT  
AGAINST ME?  
WHAT?



AH!



PEN IS  
MIGHTIER  
THAN THE  
SWORD!

THERE IT  
IS! A  
PEN!





**ZENDAH!**

**GAHBAADAH!**



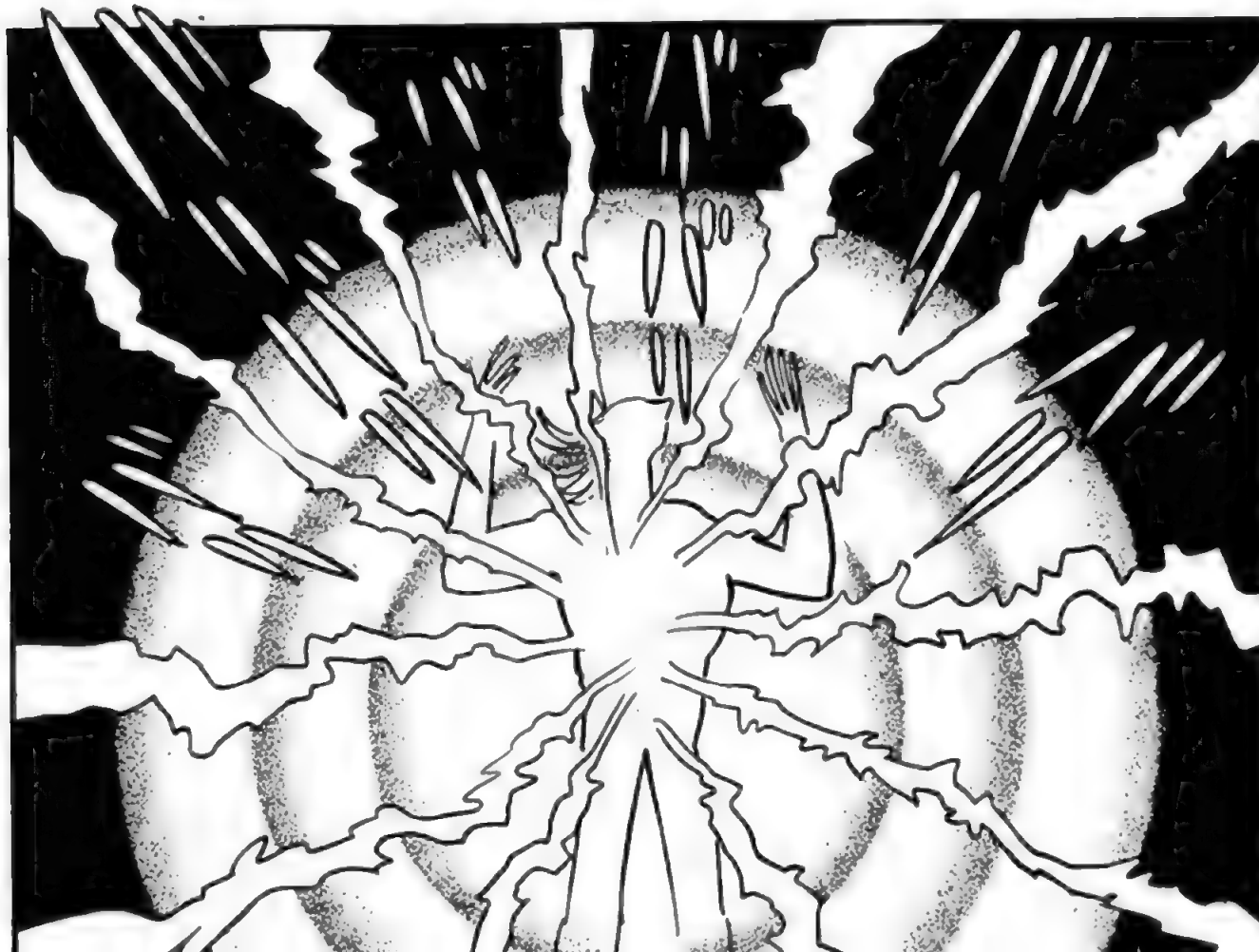
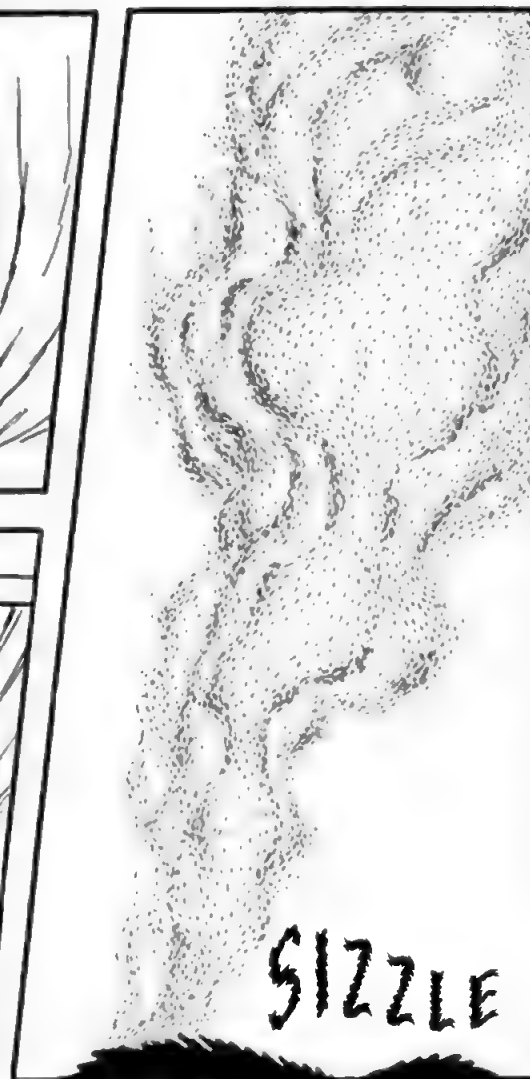




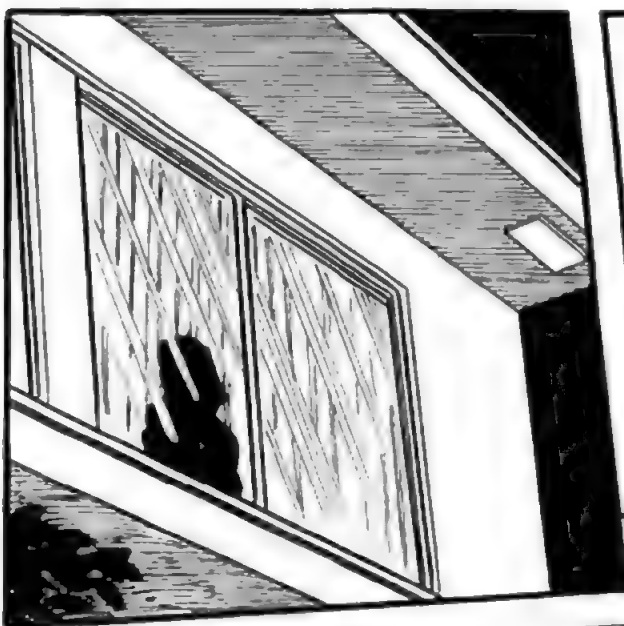
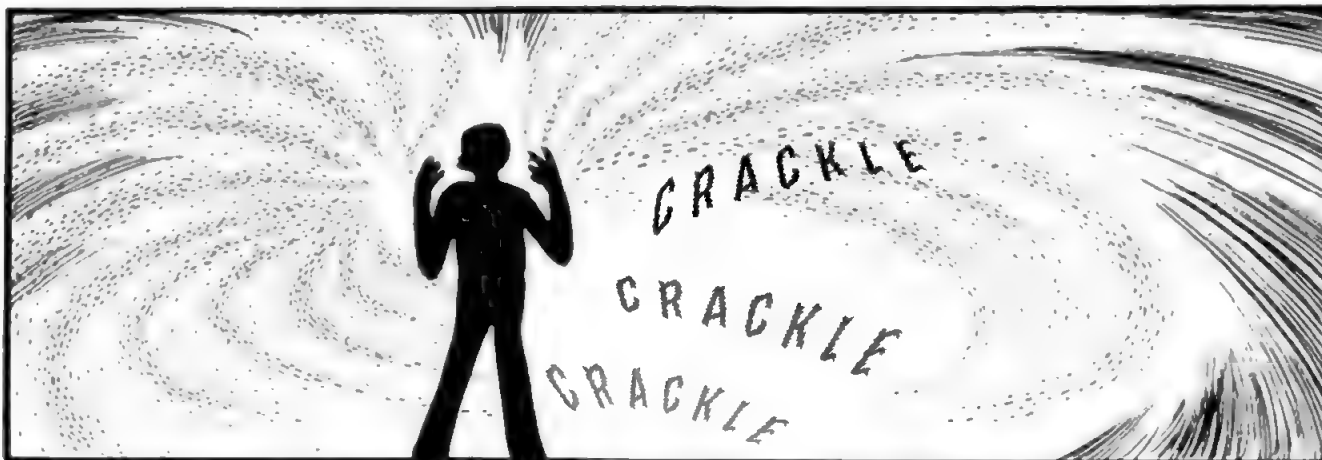




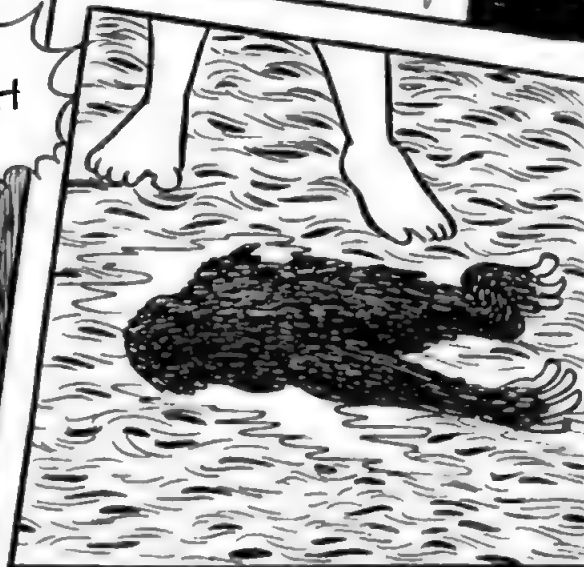




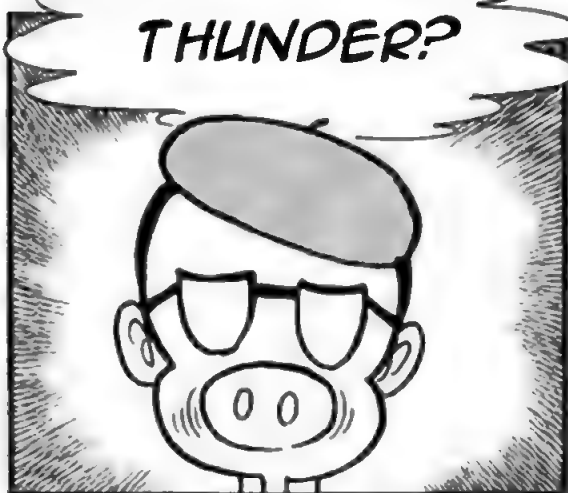




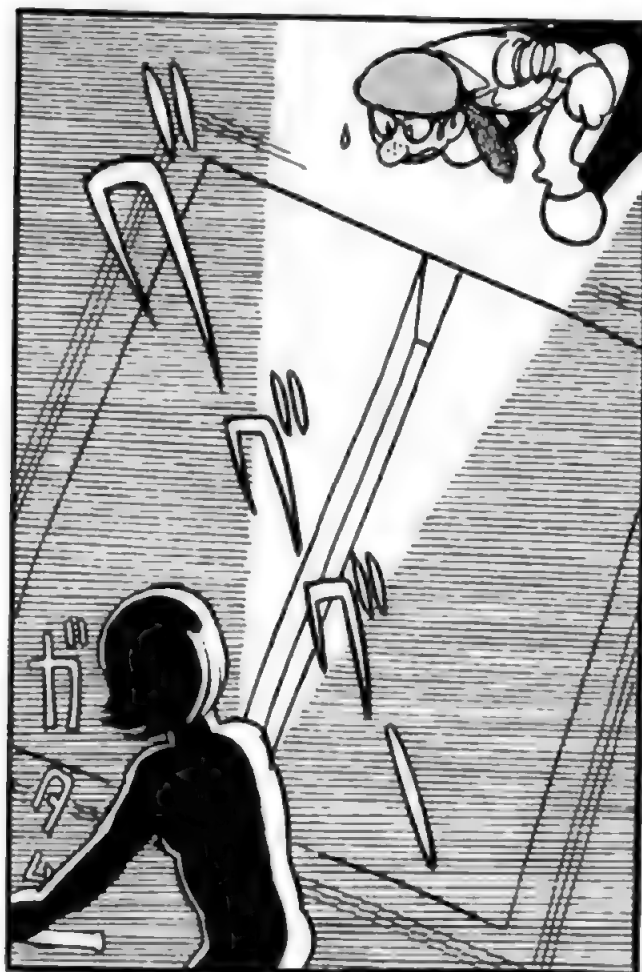
HUH

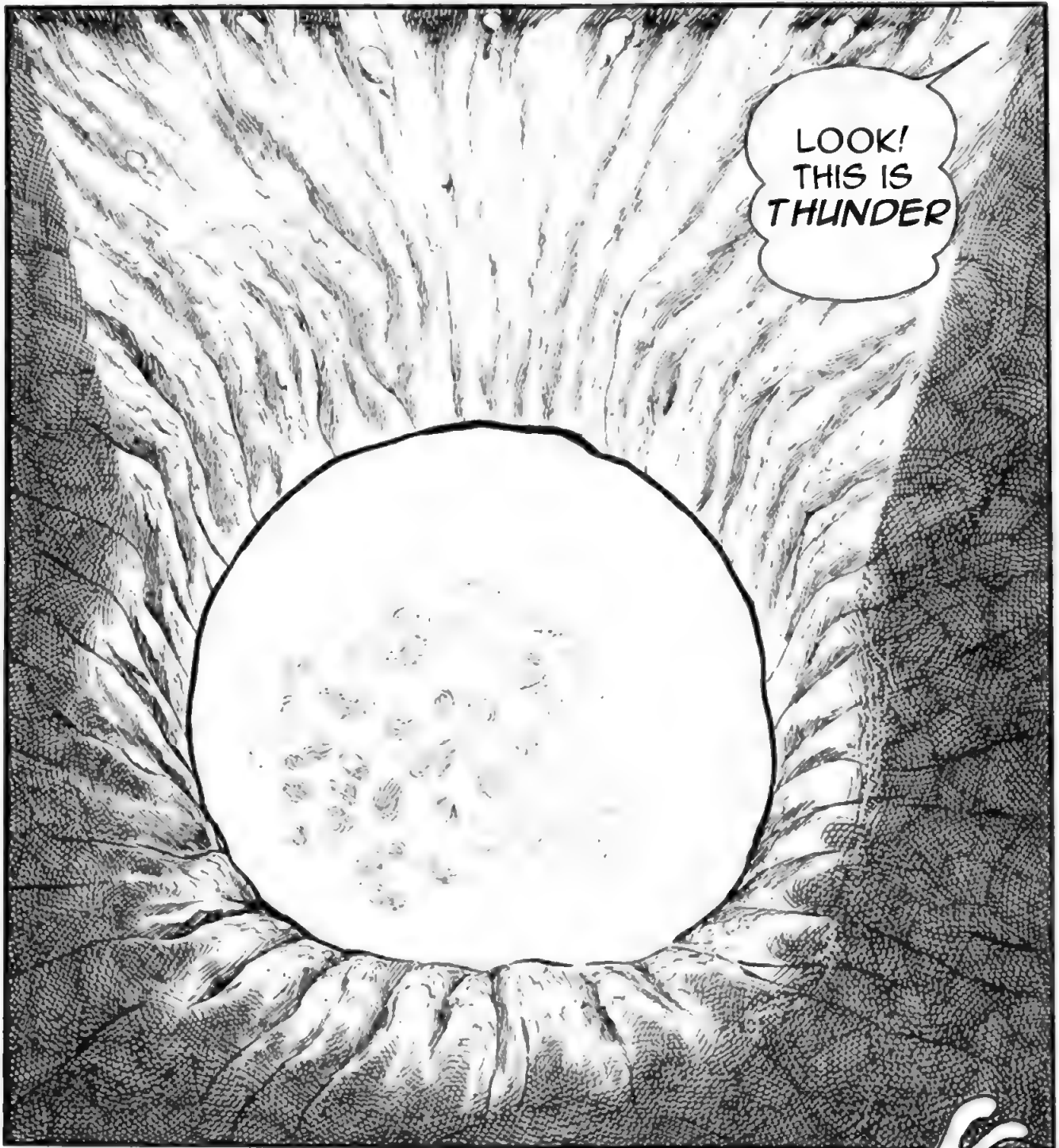


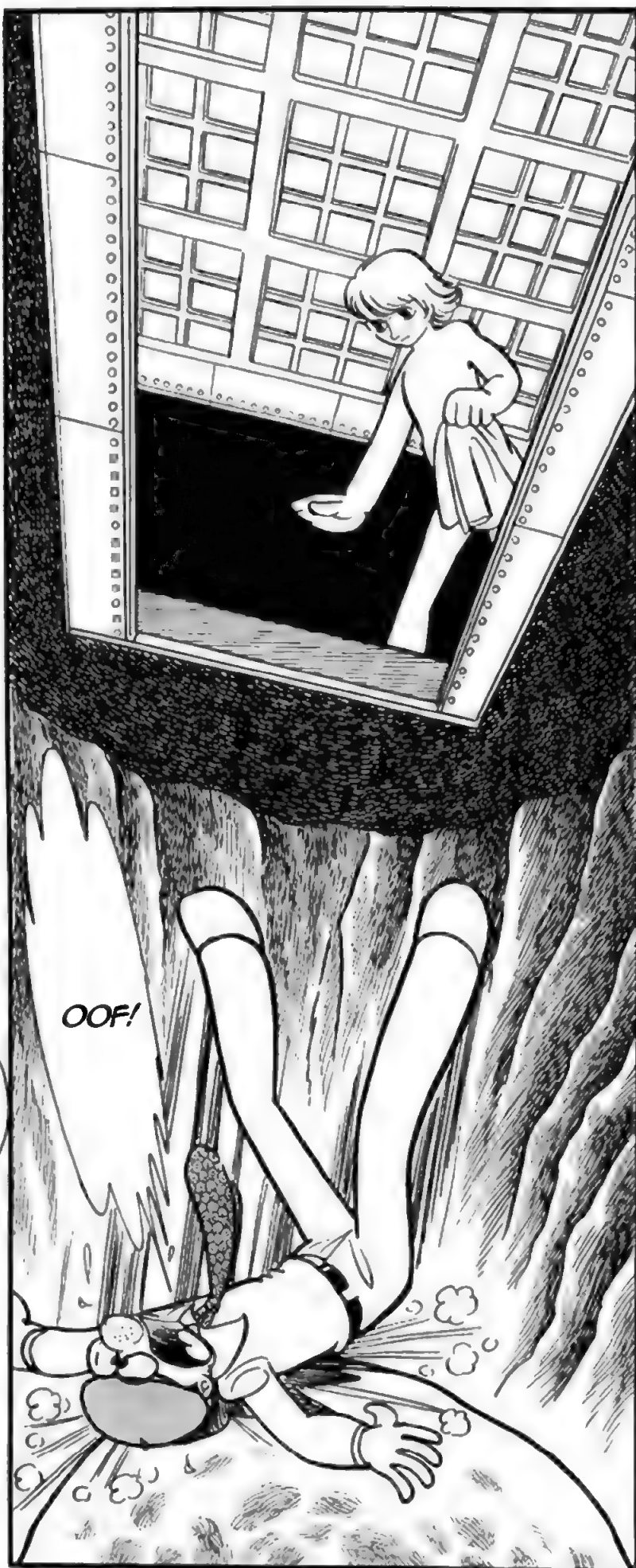




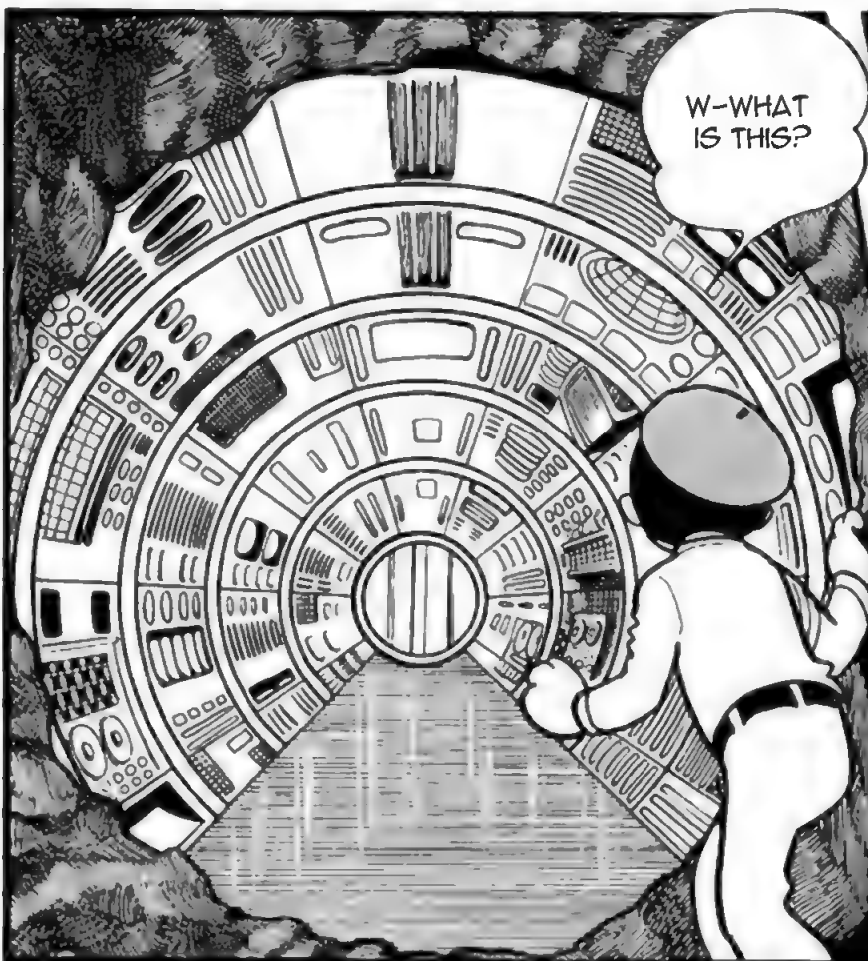


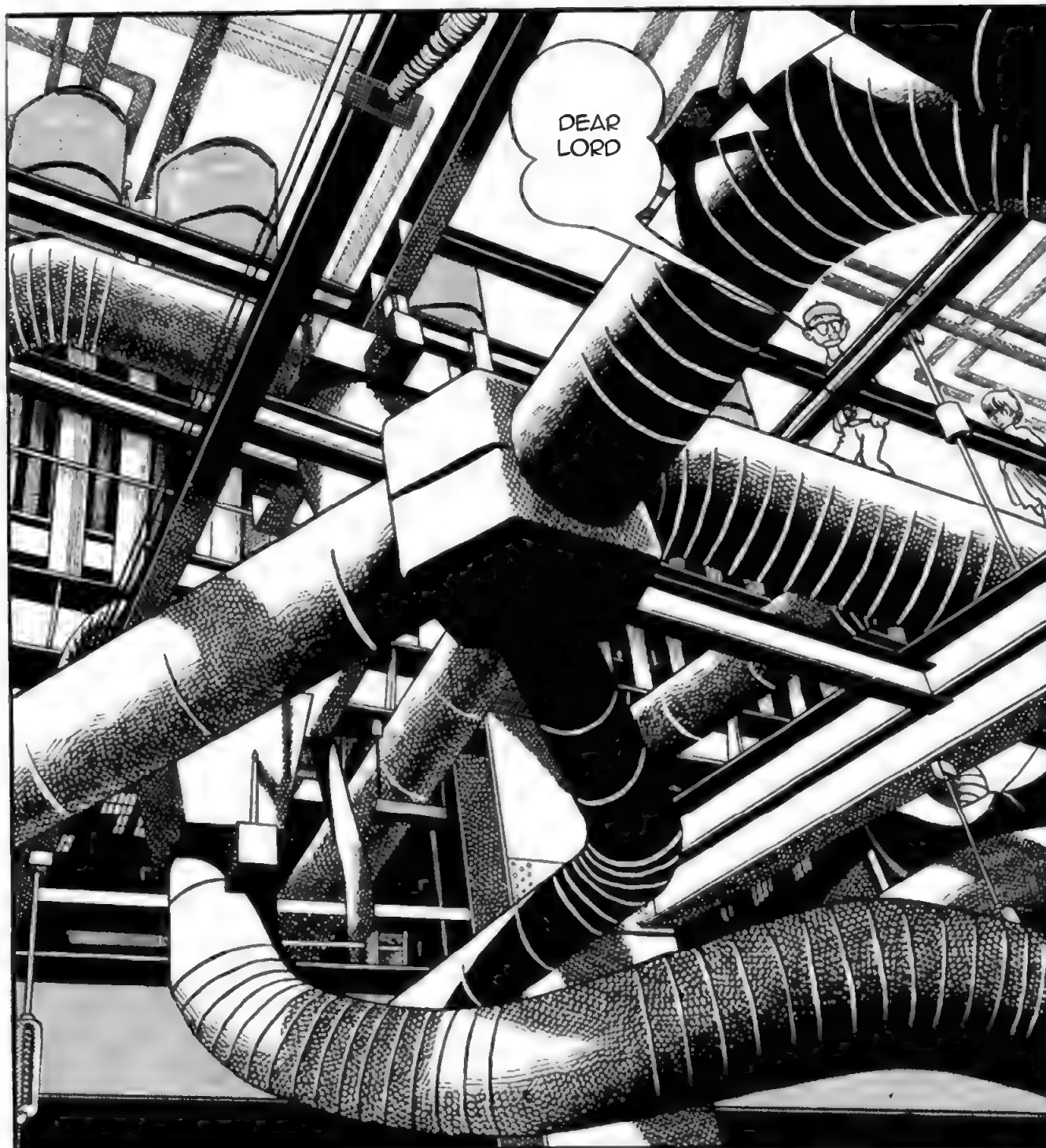






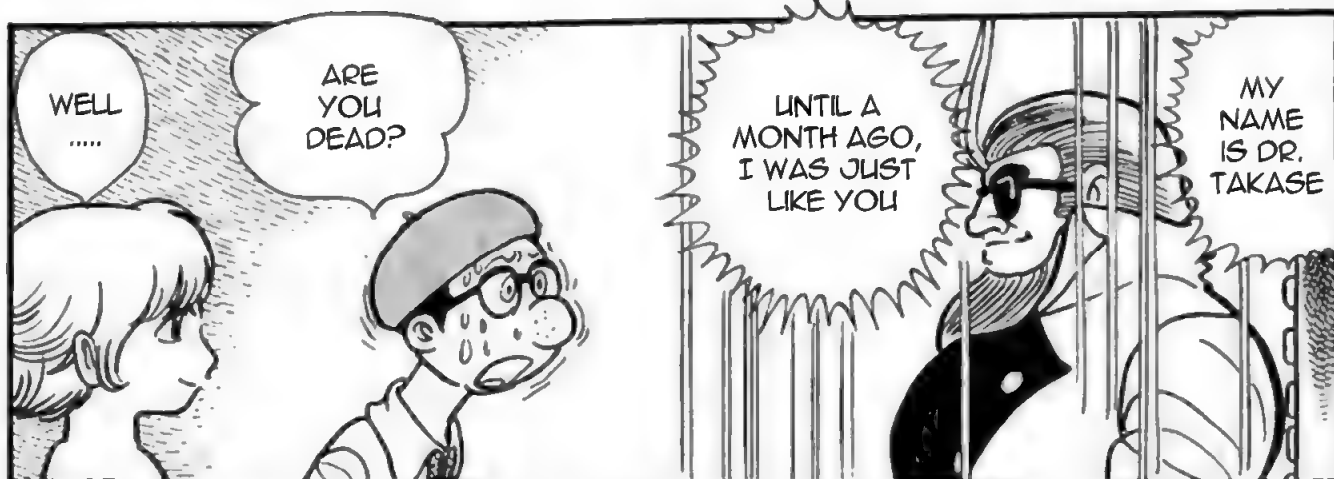


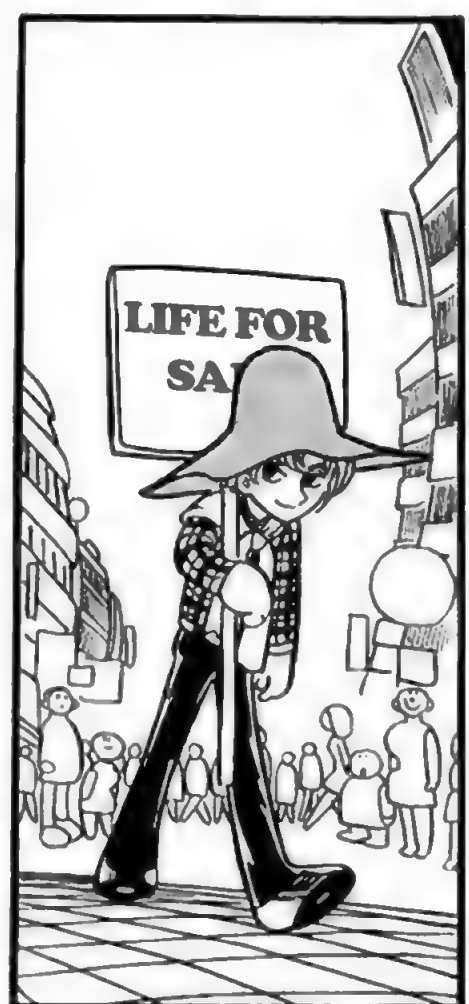
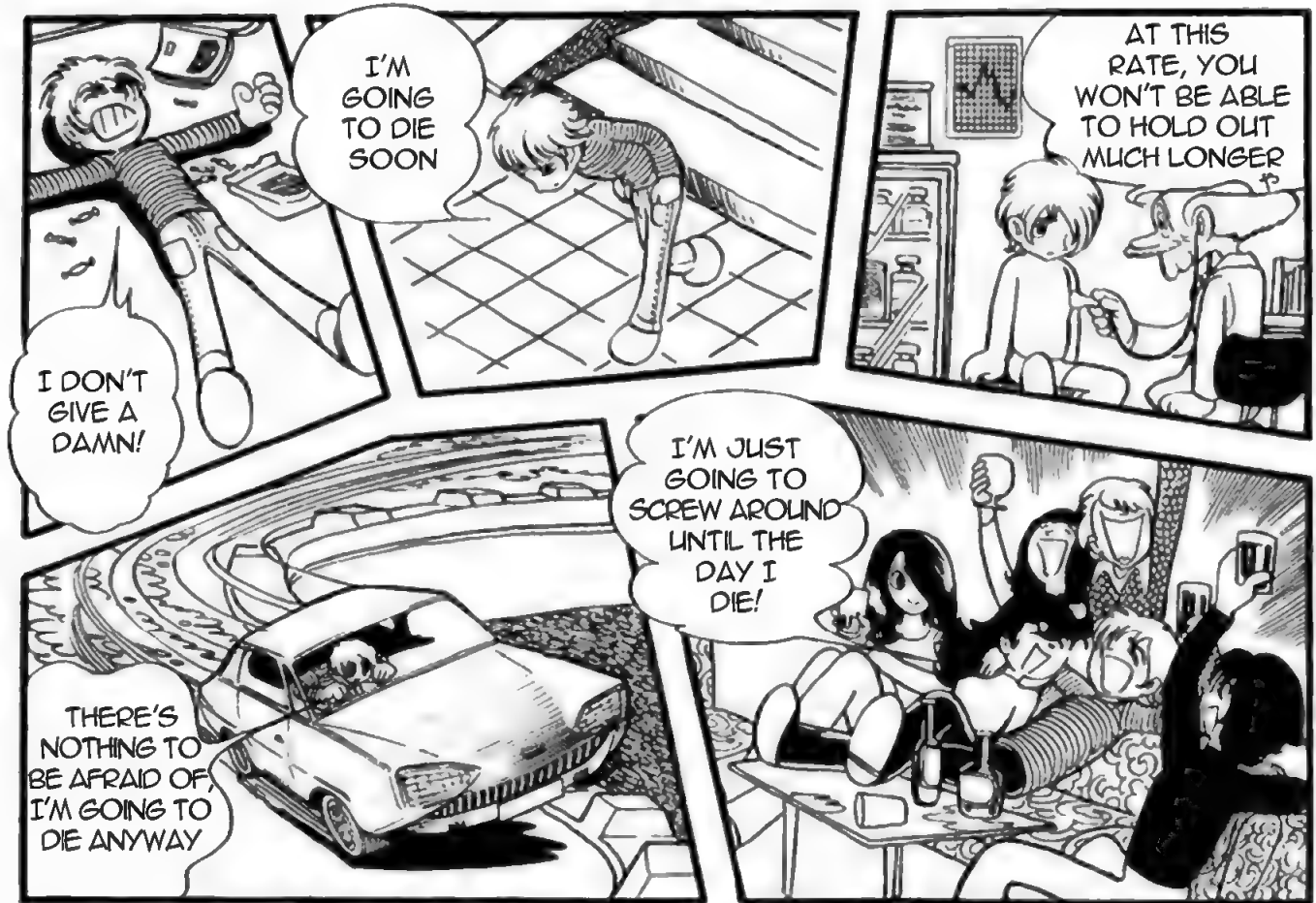








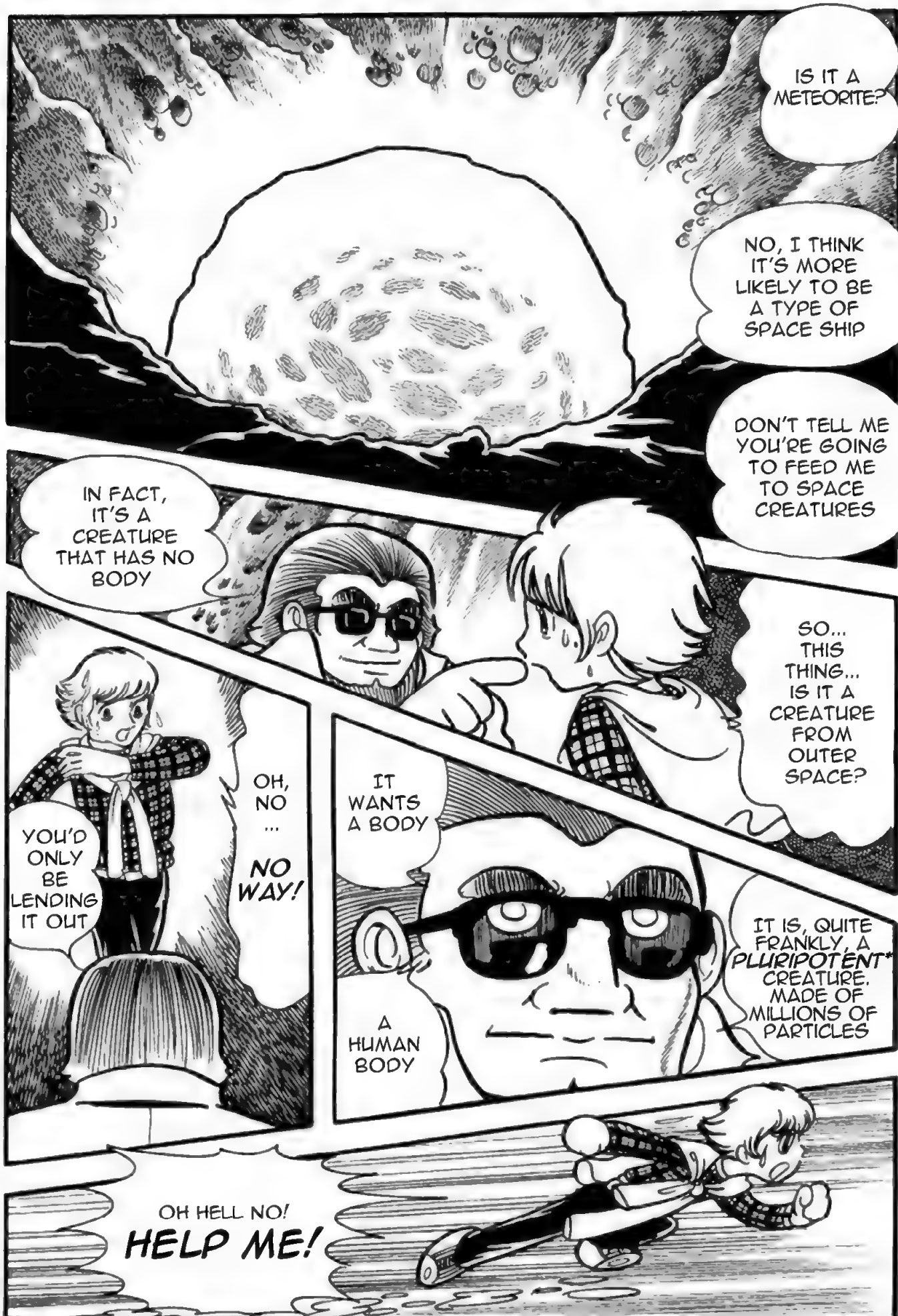












IS IT A  
METEORITE?

NO, I THINK  
IT'S MORE  
LIKELY TO BE  
A TYPE OF  
SPACE SHIP

DON'T TELL ME  
YOU'RE GOING  
TO FEED ME  
TO SPACE  
CREATURES

IN FACT,  
IT'S A  
CREATURE  
THAT HAS NO  
BODY

SO...  
THIS  
THING...  
IS IT A  
CREATURE  
FROM  
OUTER  
SPACE?

YOU'D  
ONLY  
BE  
LENDING  
IT OUT

OH,  
NO  
...  
**NO WAY!**

IT  
WANTS  
A BODY

A  
HUMAN  
BODY

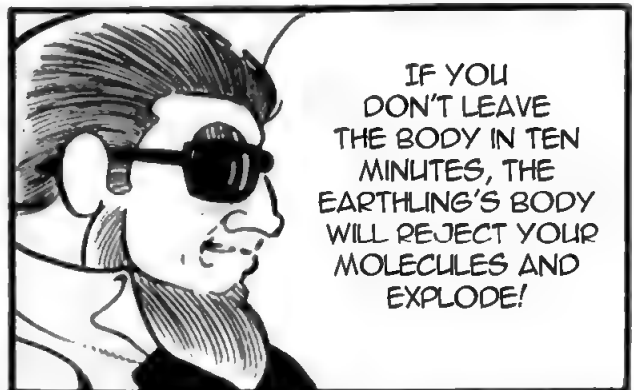
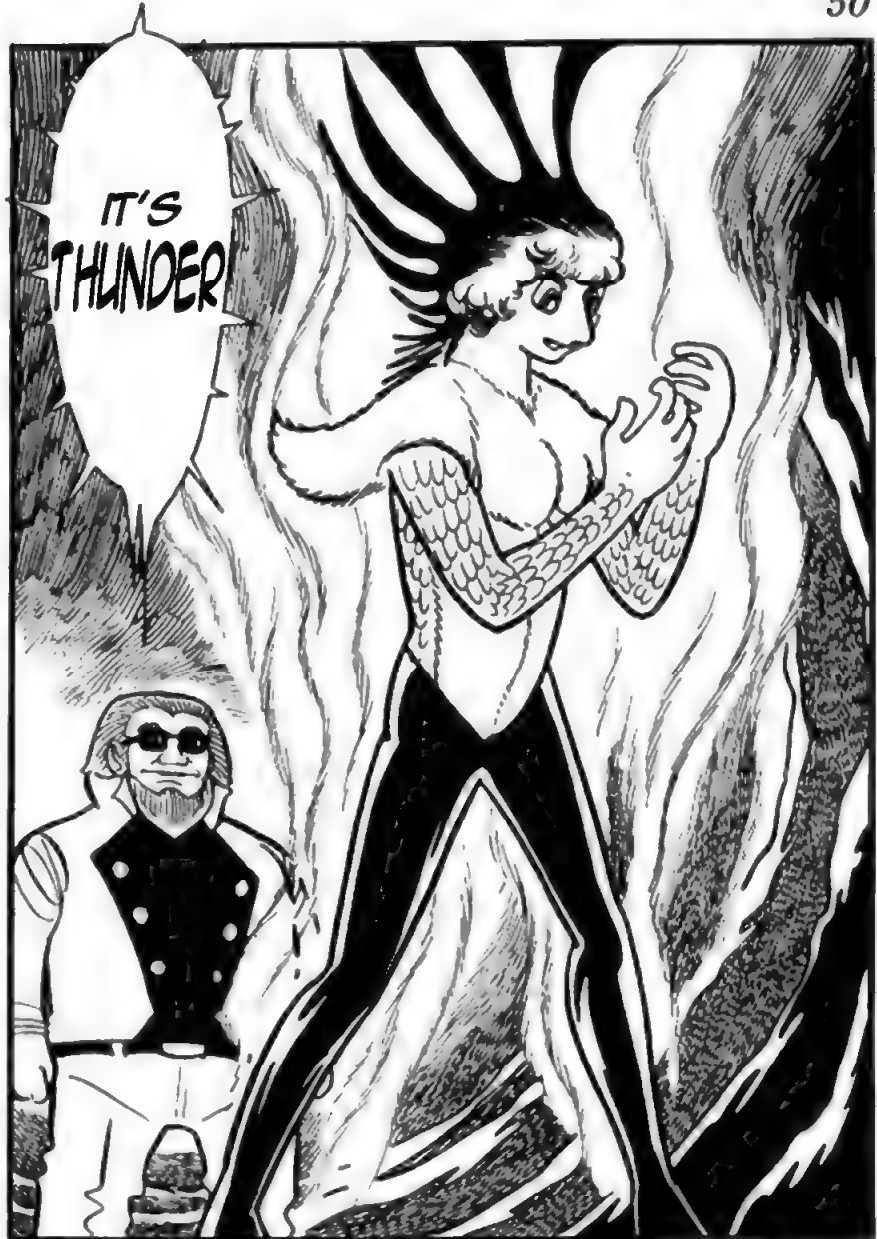
IT IS, QUITE  
FRANKLY, A  
**PLURIPOTENT\***  
CREATURE.  
MADE OF  
MILLIONS OF  
PARTICLES

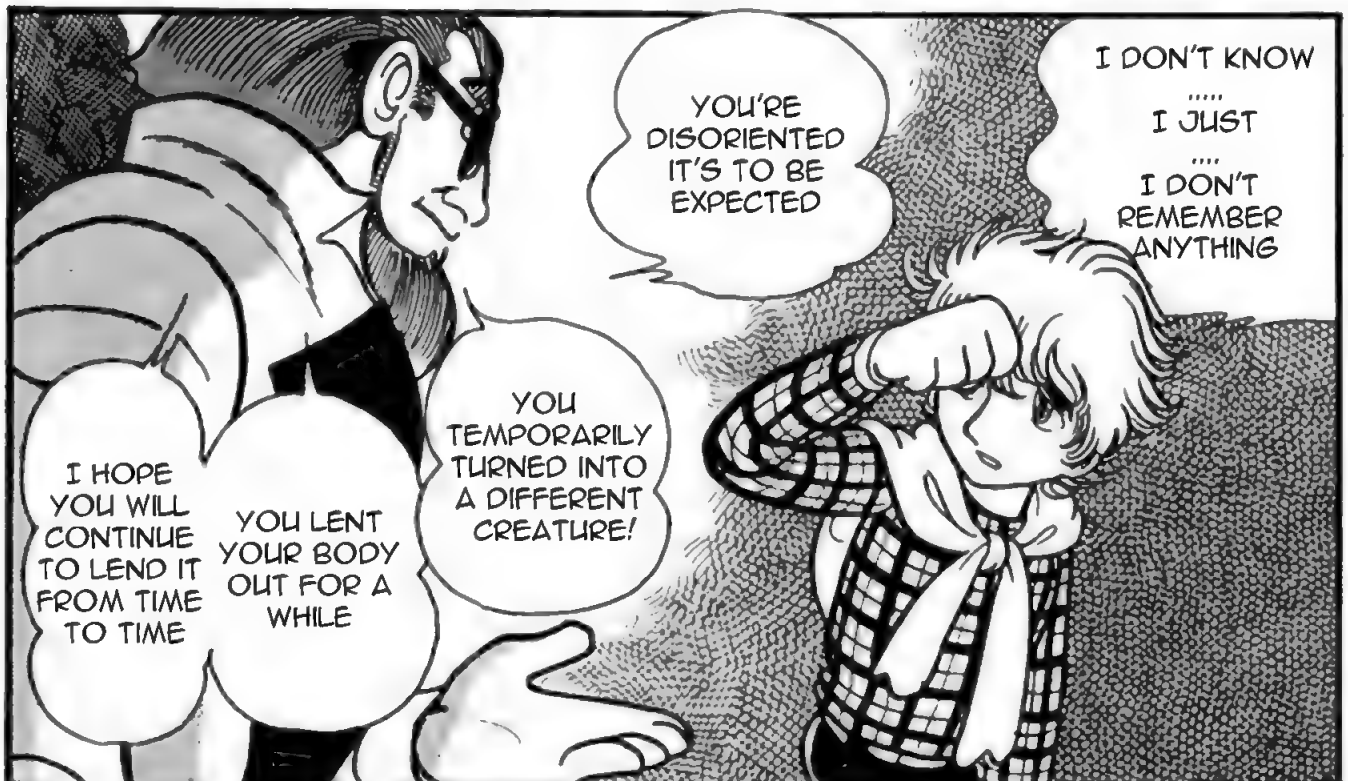
OH HELL NO!  
**HELP ME!**

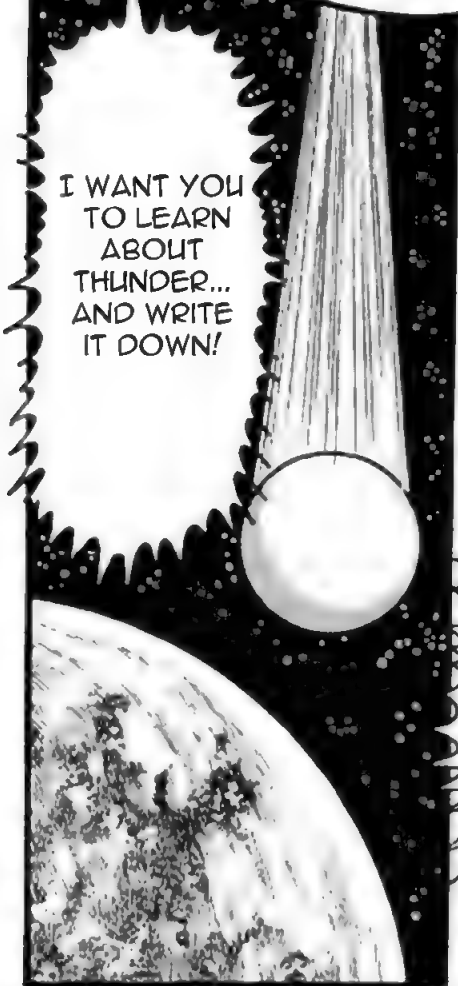
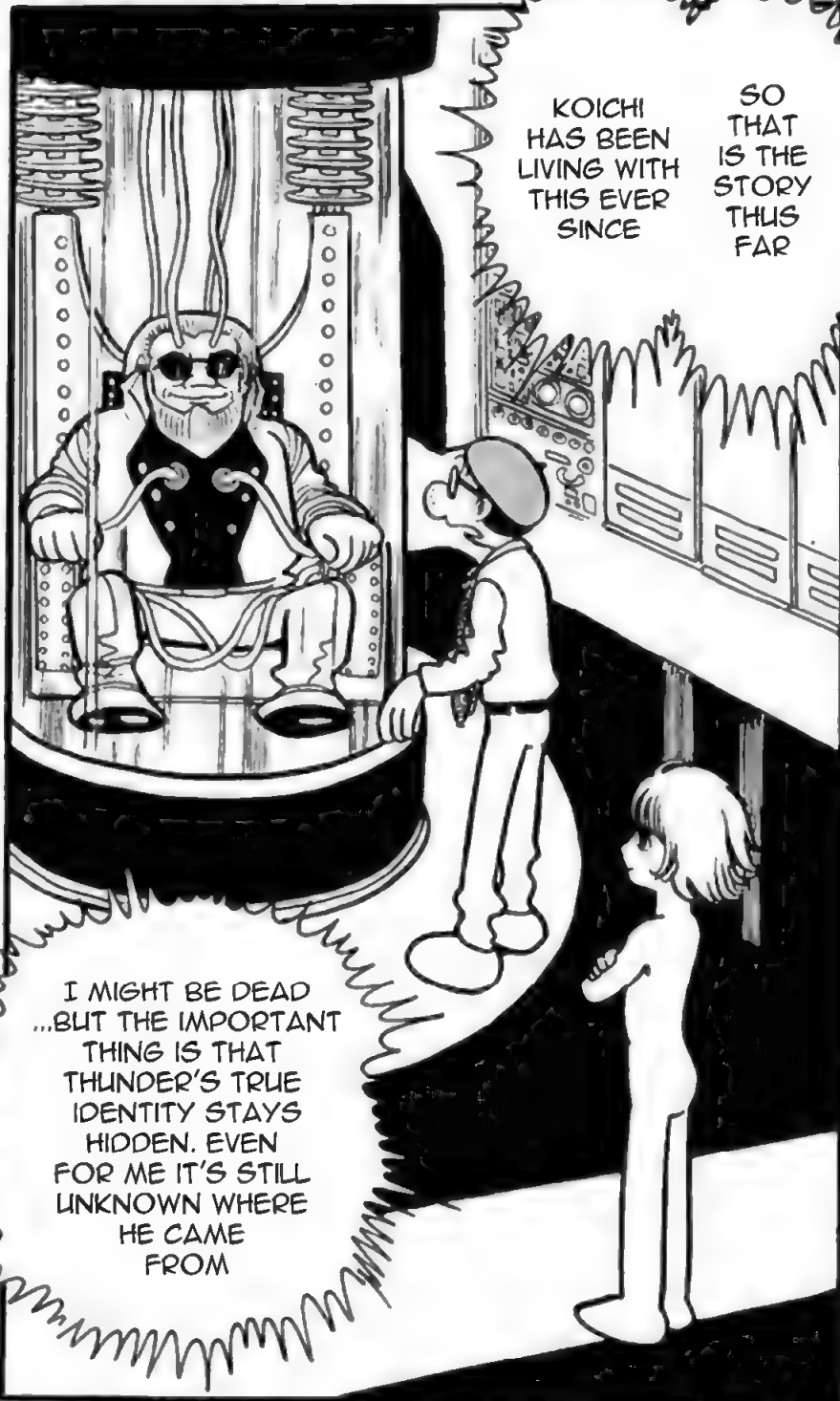
\*PLURIPOTENT STEM CELLS CAN DIVIDE INTO ALL CELL TYPES IN AN ORGANISM,  
BUT CANNOT DEVELOP INTO AN ENTIRE ORGANISM ON THEIR OWN















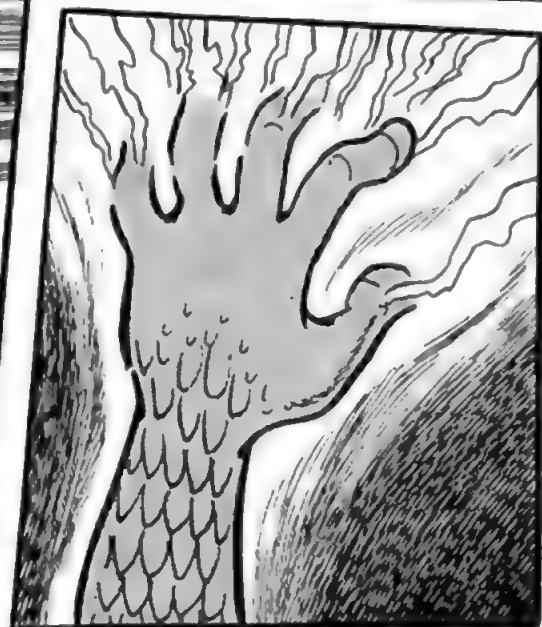




**THUNDER**



**ГУАHH!**



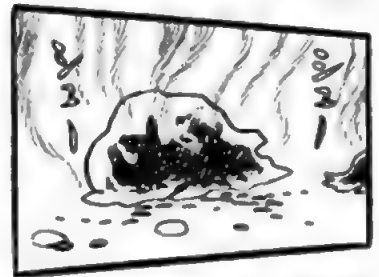
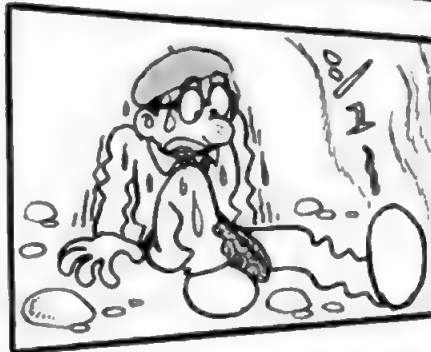
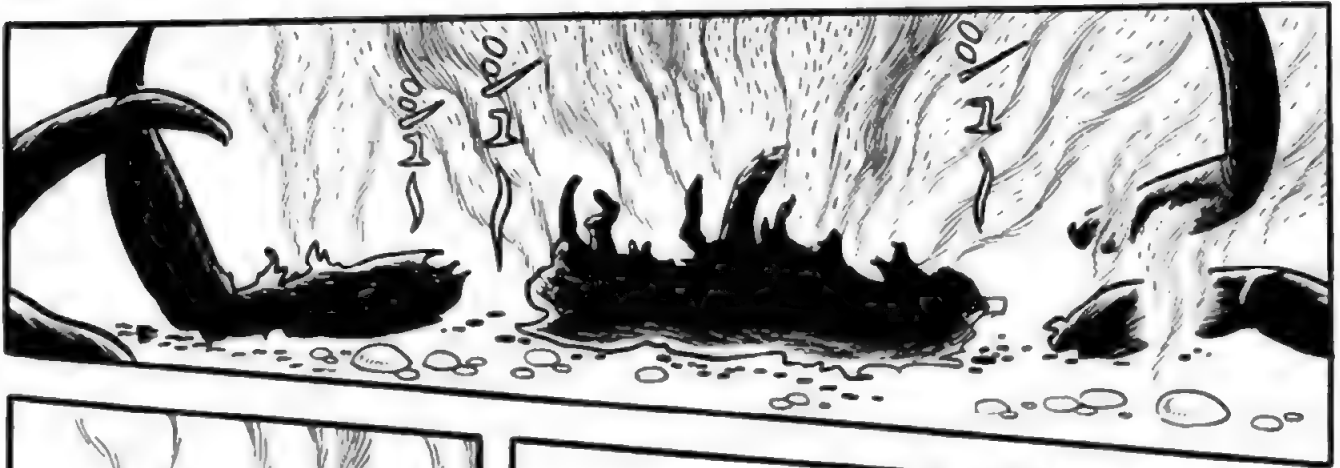




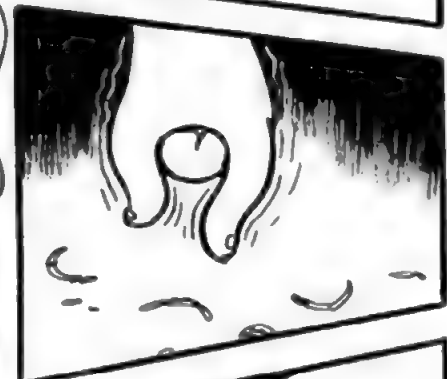
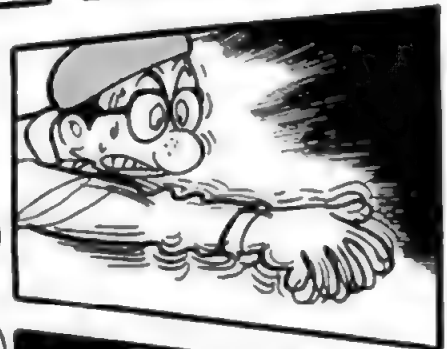






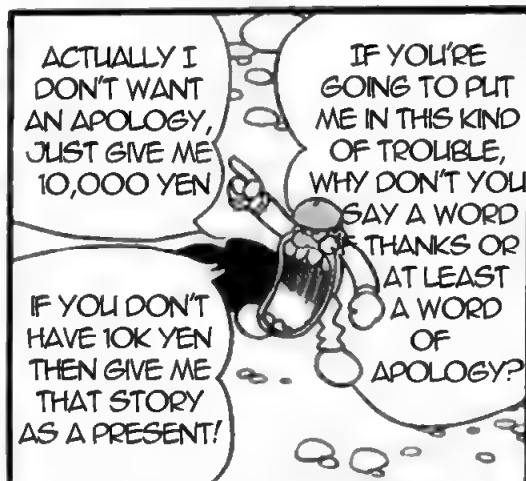


WHAT  
IS GOING  
ON HERE?  
WHY IS THIS  
HAPPENING?  
I NEED YOU  
TO TELL ME  
EVERYTHING!  
PLEASE  
CONFESS!



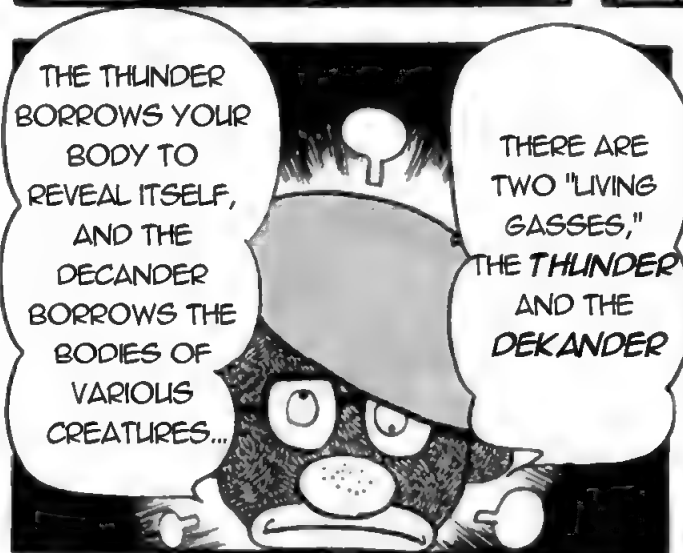
A-AND  
IT'S...  
HARD  
AS ROCK

I-IT  
WAS A  
SPIDER

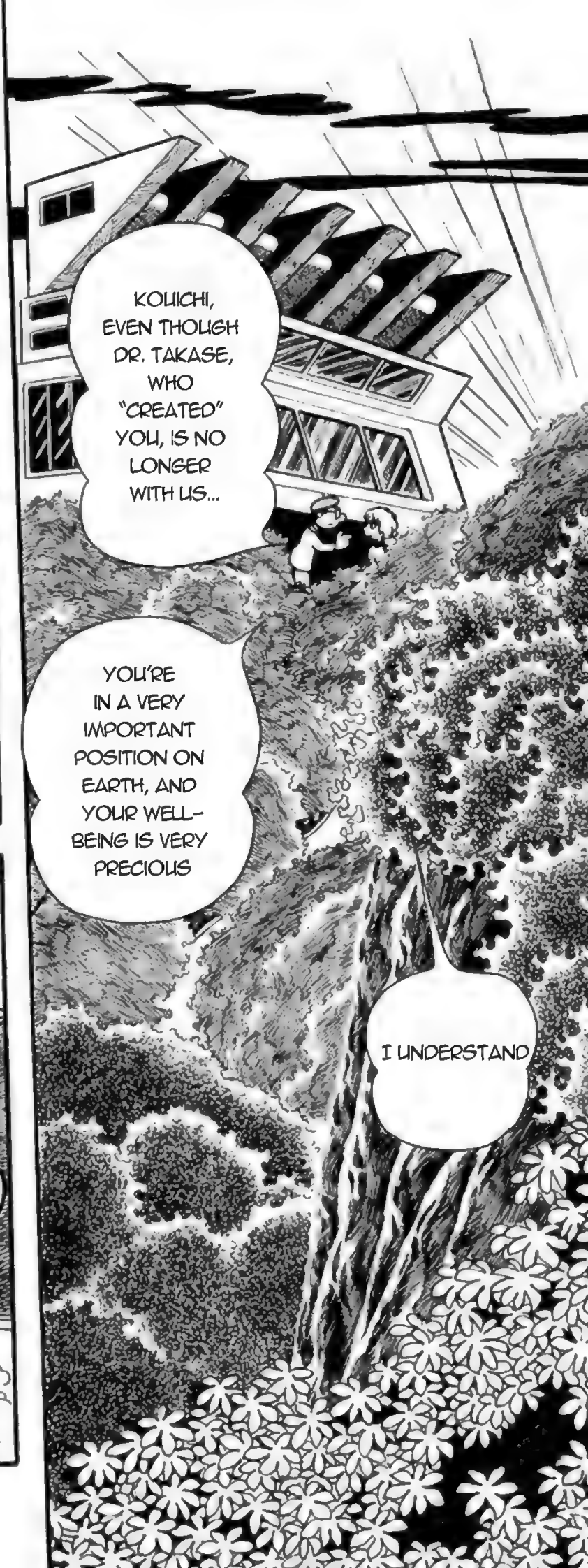
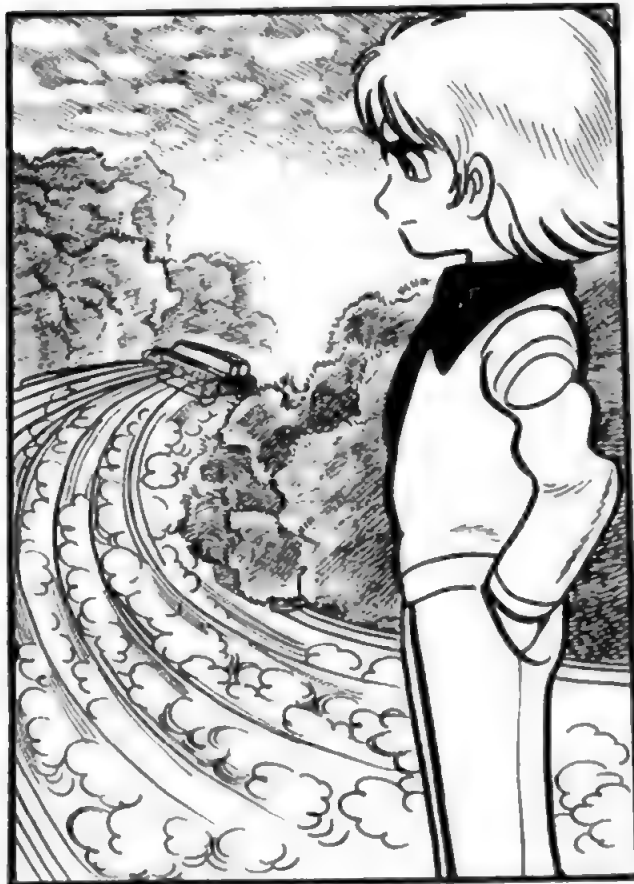
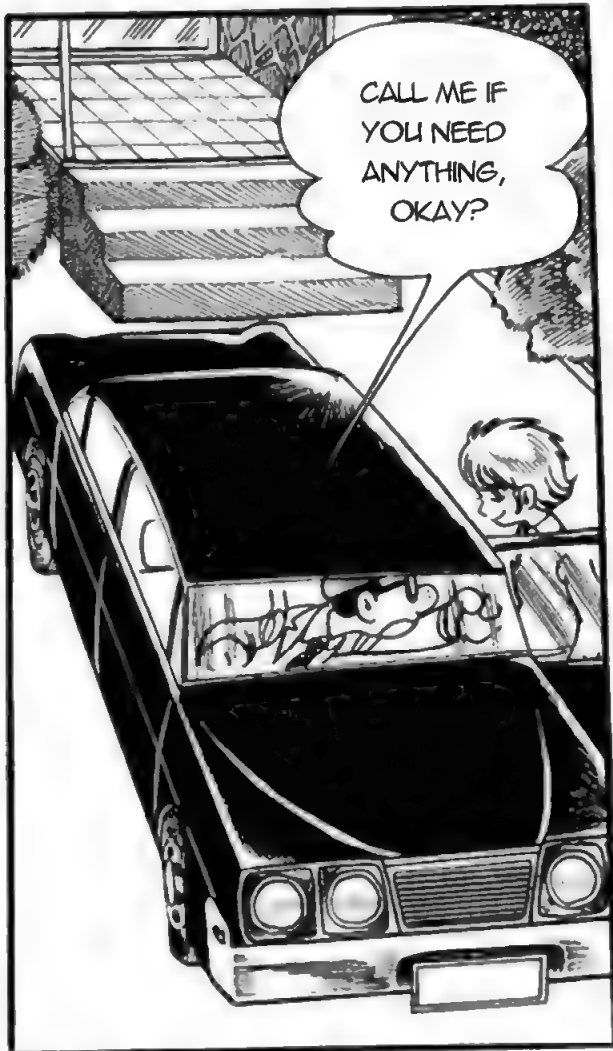












KOUICHI,  
EVEN THOUGH  
DR. TAKASE,  
WHO  
"CREATED"  
YOU, IS NO  
LONGER  
WITH US...

YOU'RE  
IN A VERY  
IMPORTANT  
POSITION ON  
EARTH, AND  
YOUR WELL-  
BEING IS VERY  
PRECIOUS

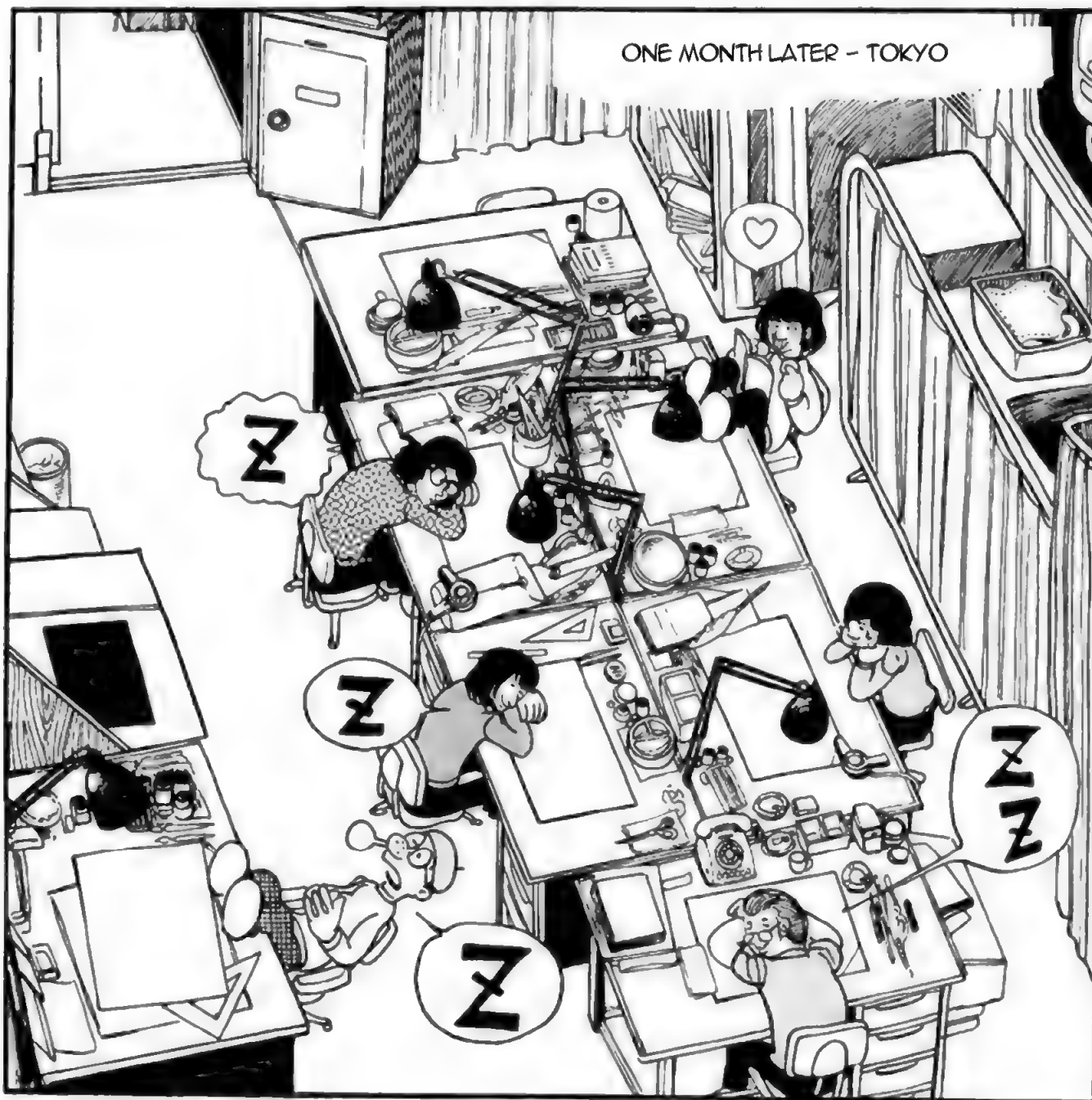
I UNDERSTAND



## 第2章

"BIBLE"

ONE MONTH LATER - TOKYO



I'D LIKE TO  
HAVE A WORD  
WITH YOU



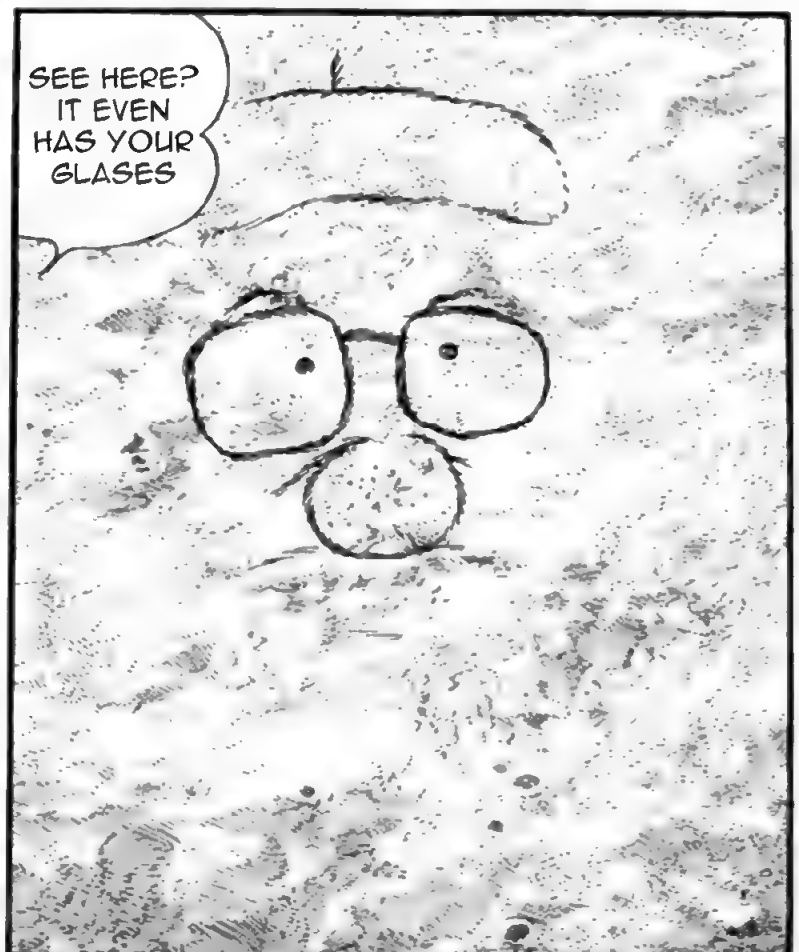
IS THERE EVEN  
A MANUSCRIPT  
YET?

SORRY,  
THE MANGA  
IS LATE



MR.  
KANOKOGI  
FROM  
SHONEN  
YONDAE  
IS HERE

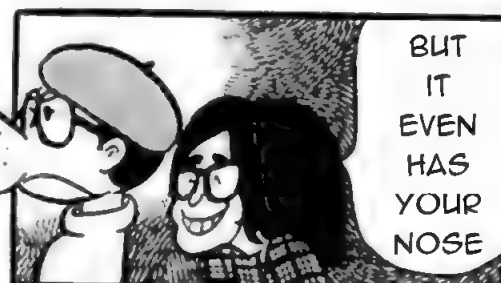
OH







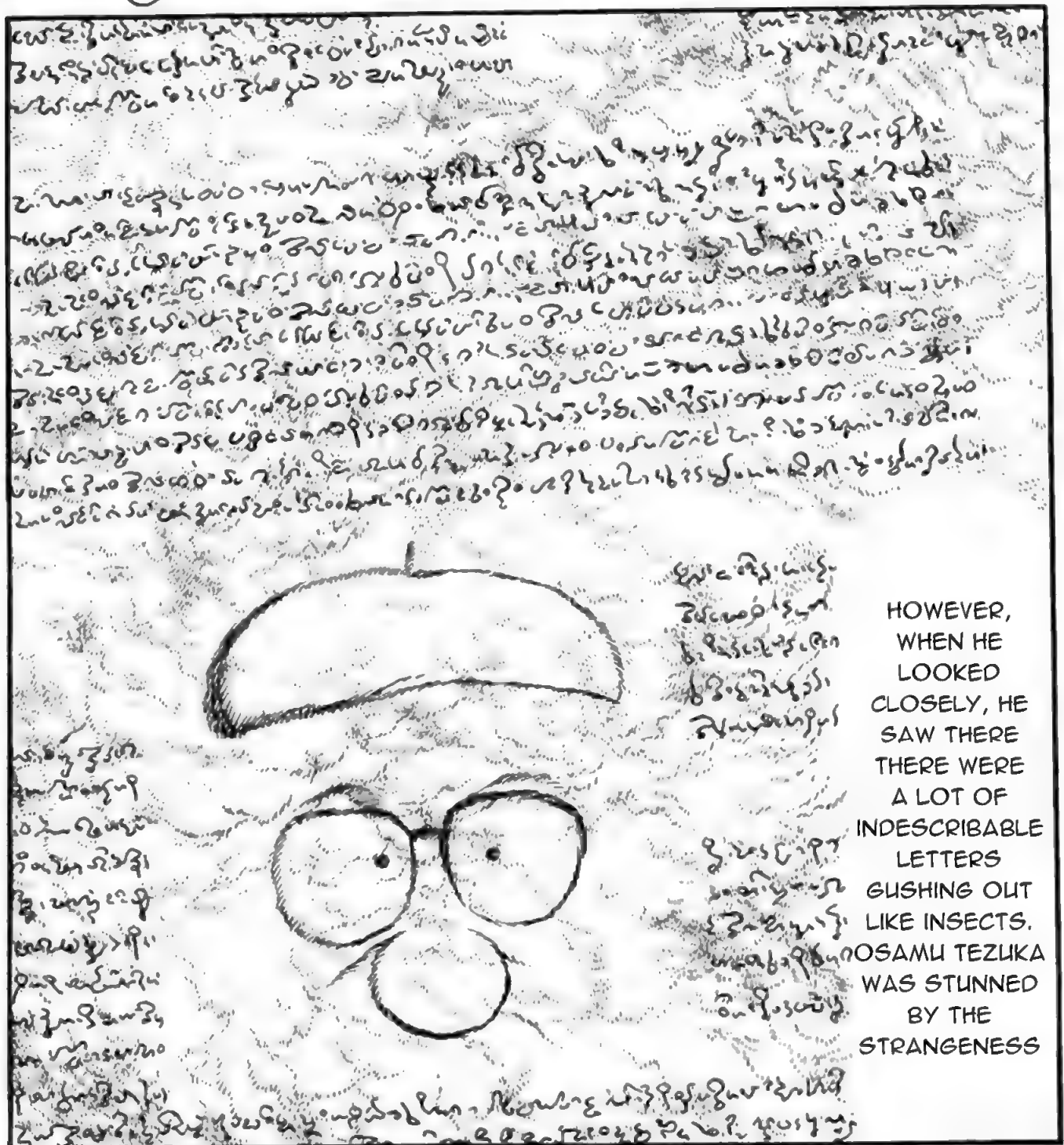
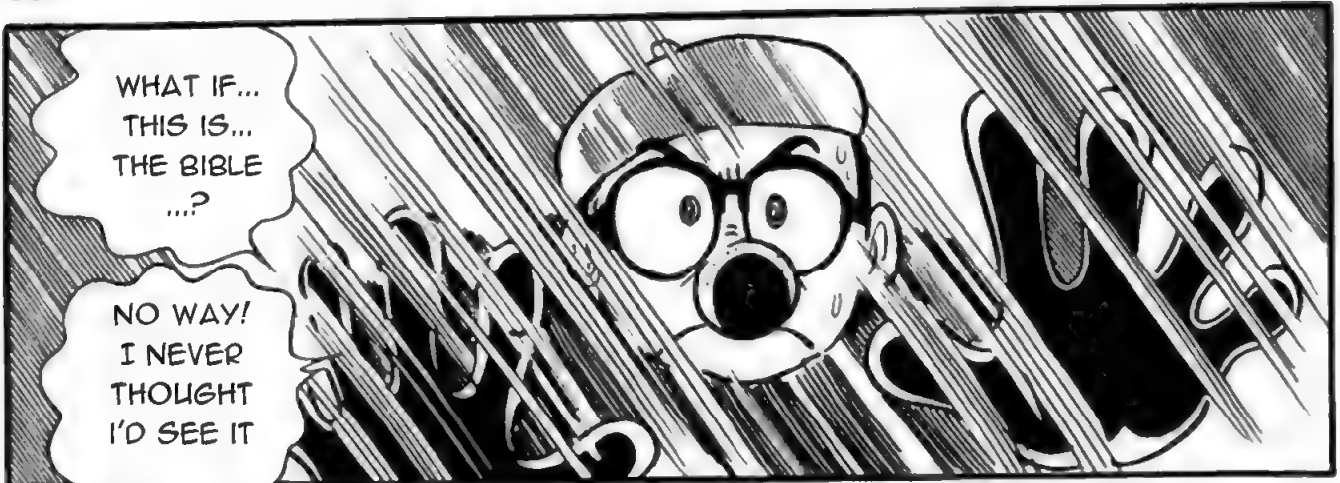
DID YOU LOOK  
CLOSELY AT THE  
STONE? IT LOOKS  
LIKE THE MANGA  
ARTIST DR. TEZUKA.  
THAT'S A FACE  
YOU DON'T  
FORGET!

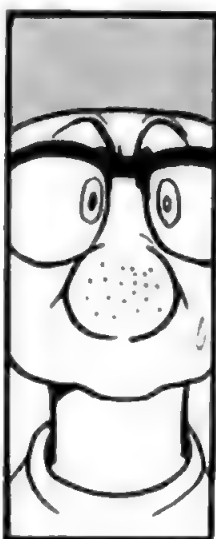
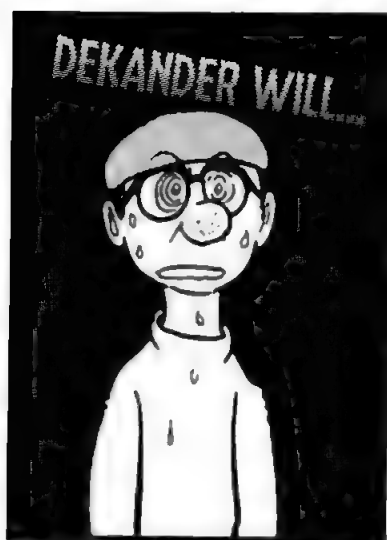
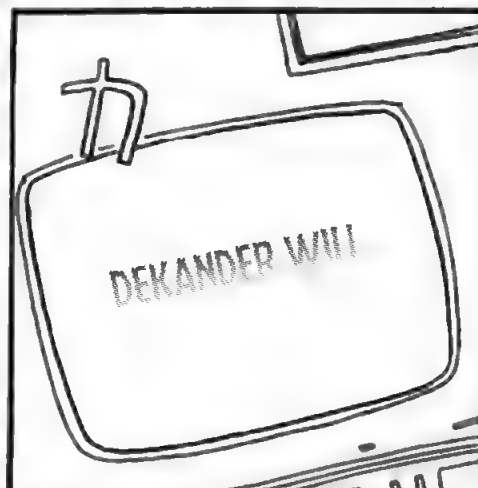
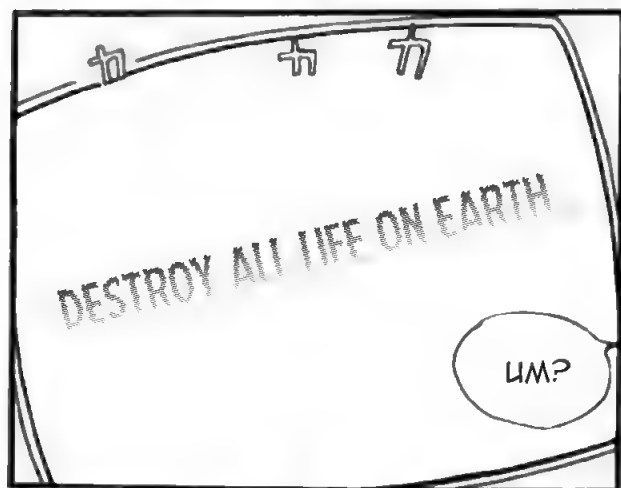
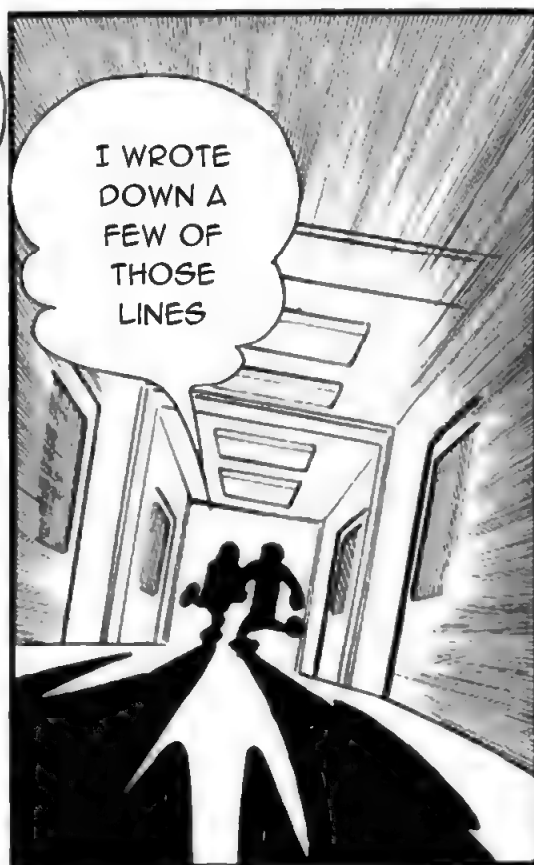


BUT  
IT  
EVEN  
HAS  
YOUR  
NOSE

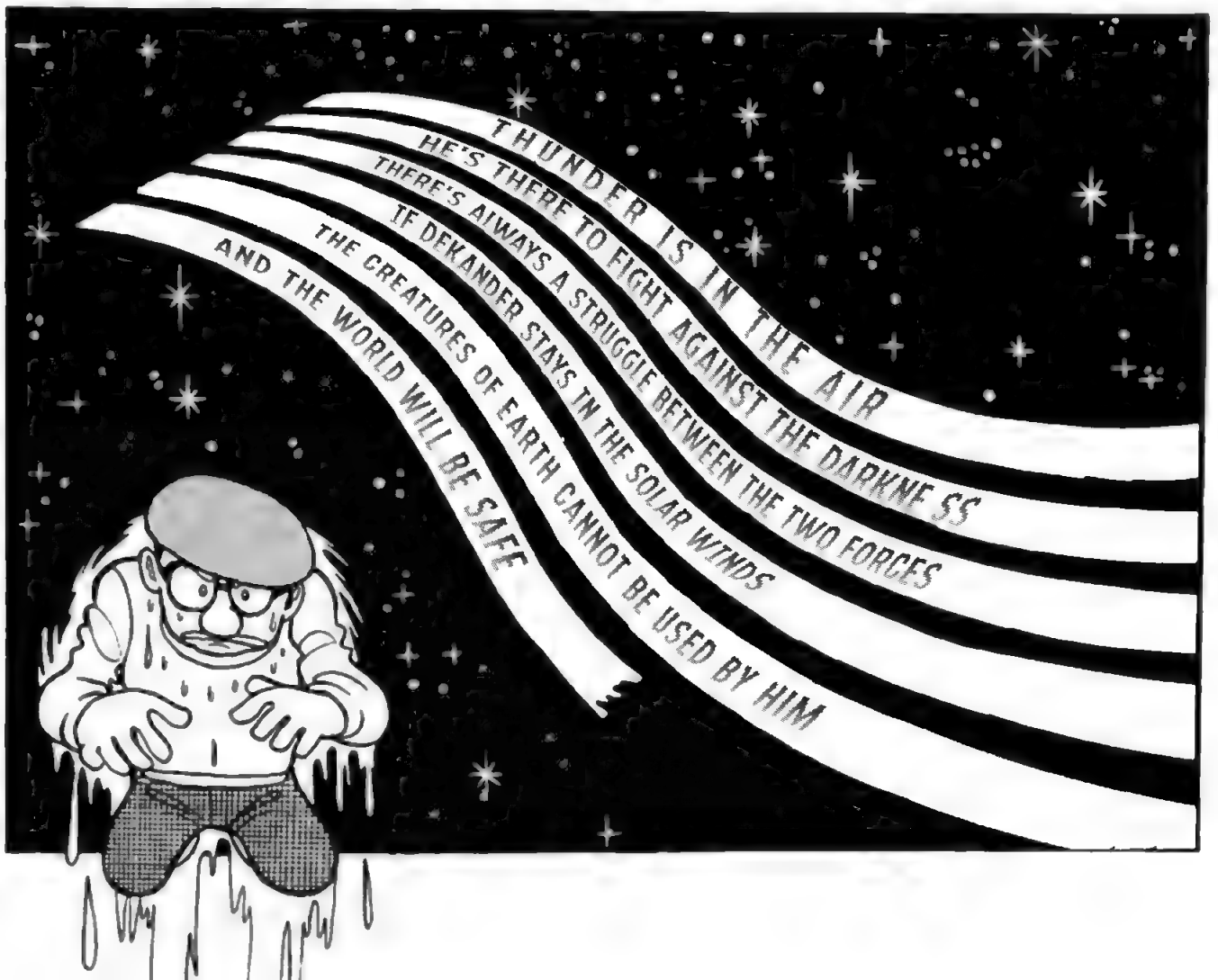
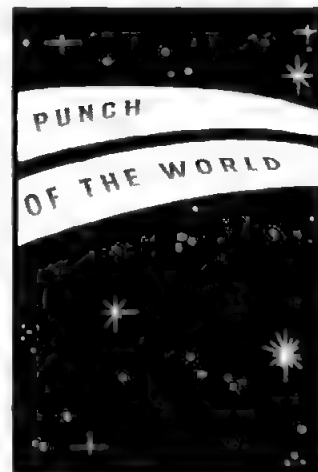
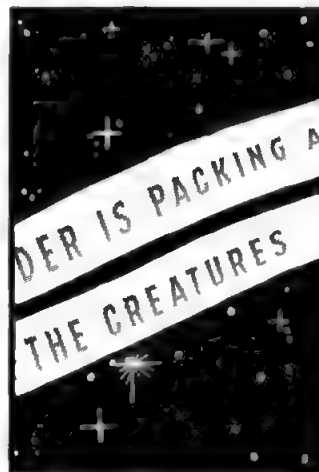
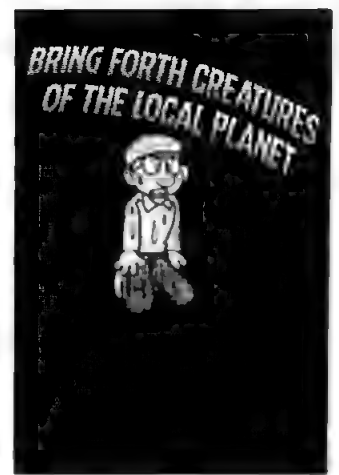
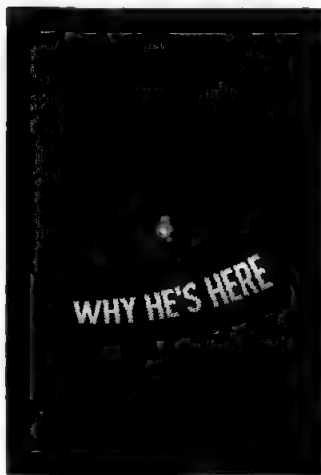


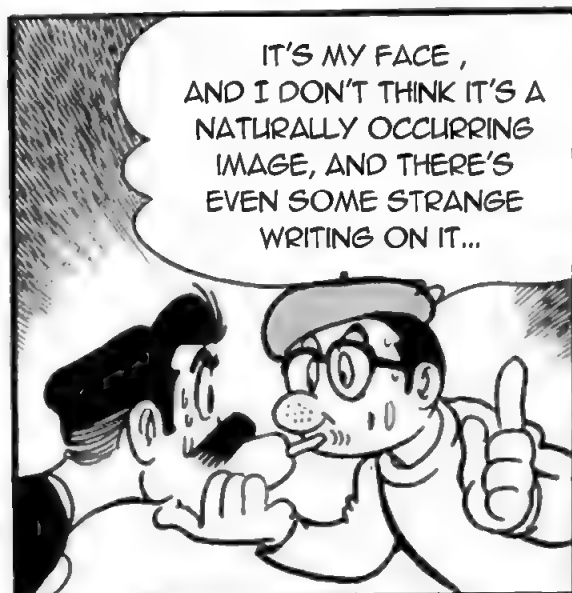
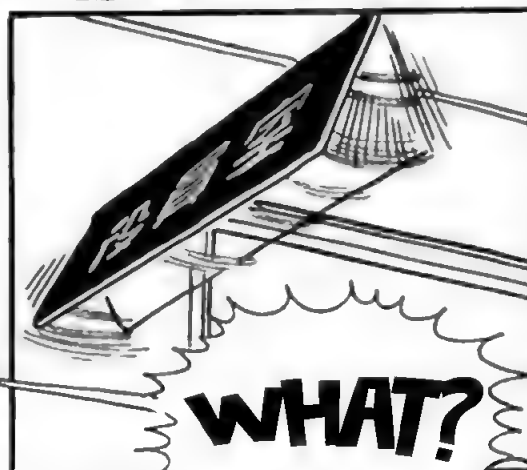
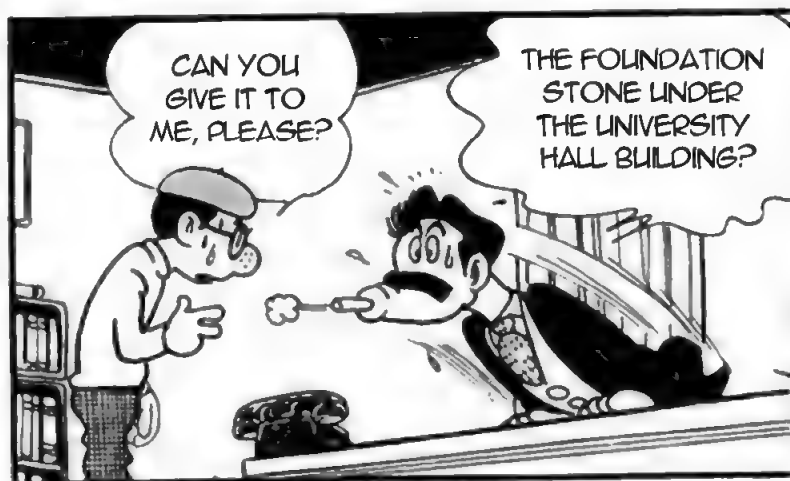
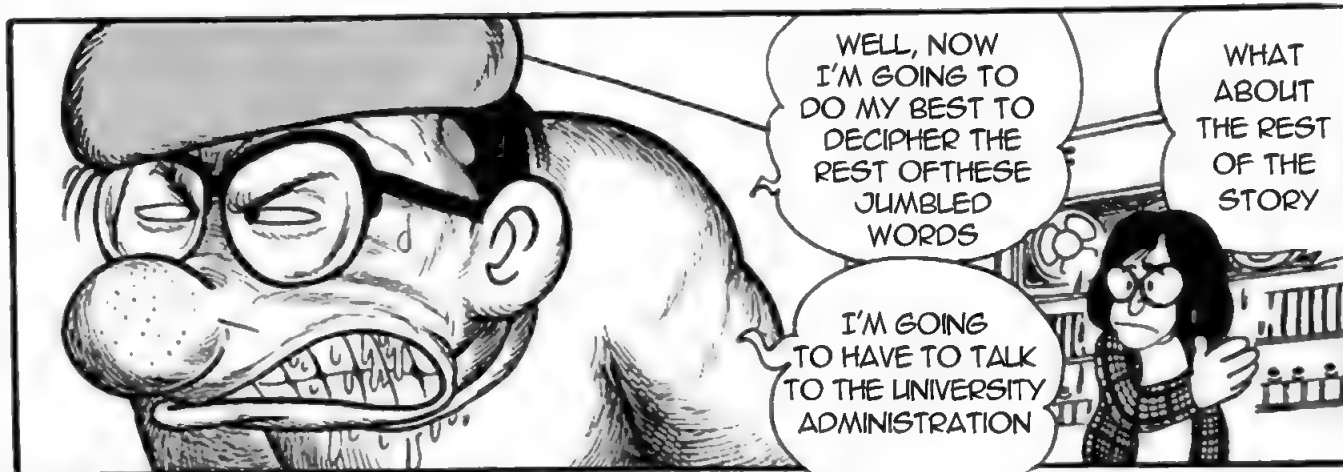
THESE STONES  
WERE BROUGHT  
HERE FROM  
THE MOUNTAINS  
OF GIFU  
PREFECTURE











\*TELLING THE WHOLE STORY

IT'S RIDICULOUS!  
IF WE PULL IT OUT,  
THE UNIVERSITY  
BUILDING  
WILL FALL OVER

CAN'T YOU  
JUST QUICKLY  
REPLACE IT  
WITH ANOTHER  
STONE BEFORE  
IT FALLS?

**NO!**  
**IT DOESN'T WORK**  
**LIKE THAT!**

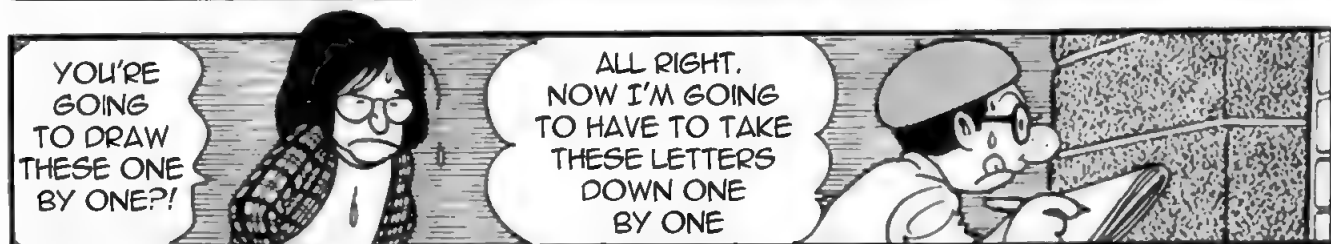
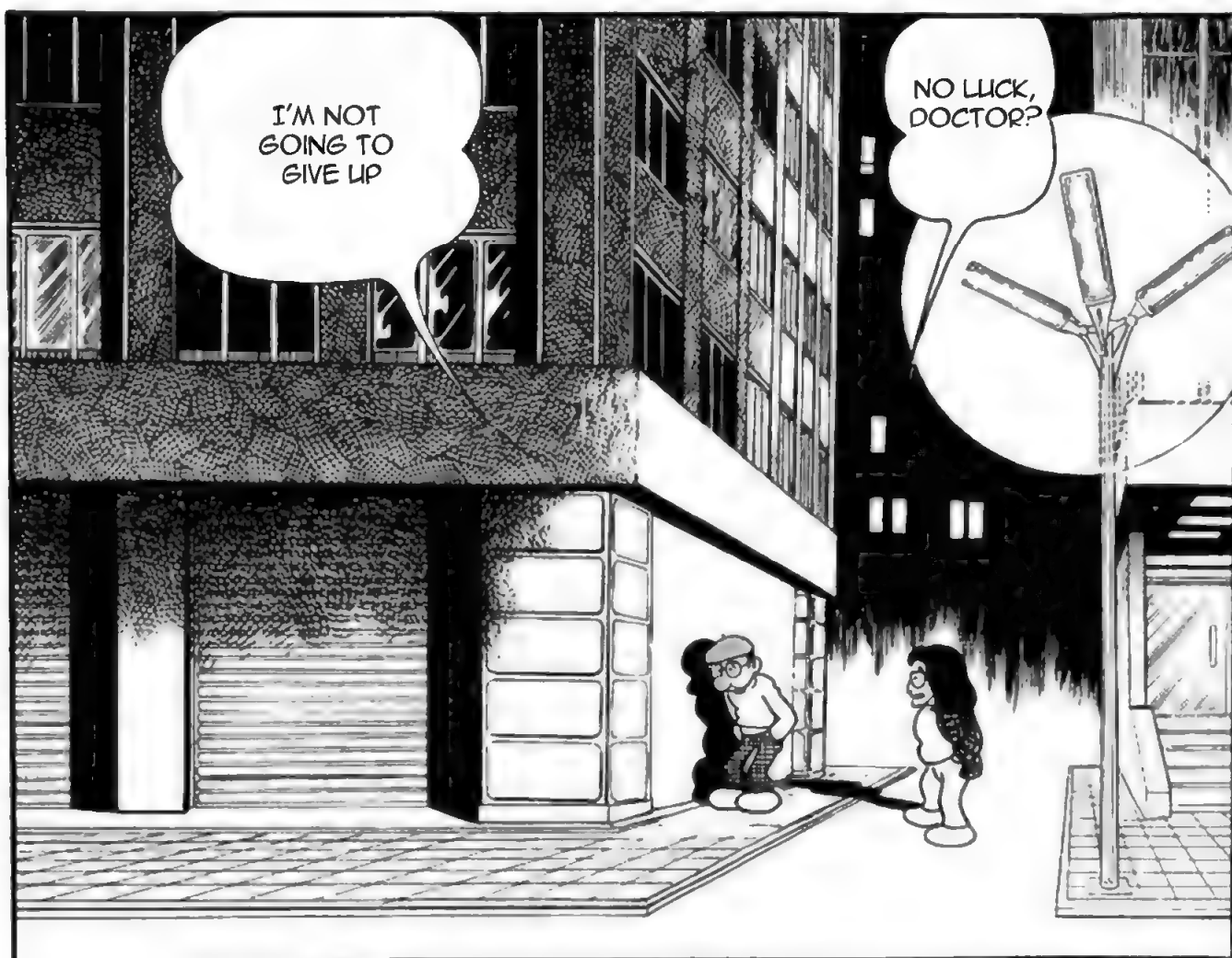


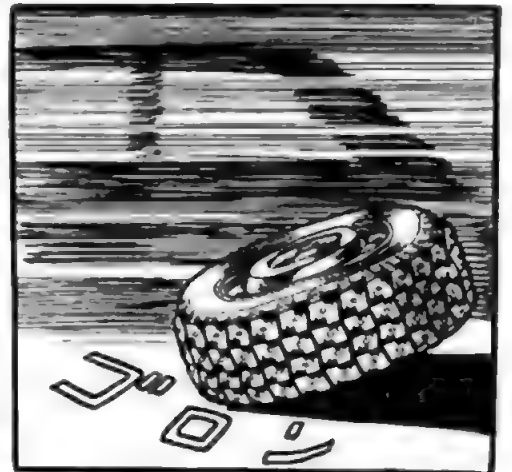
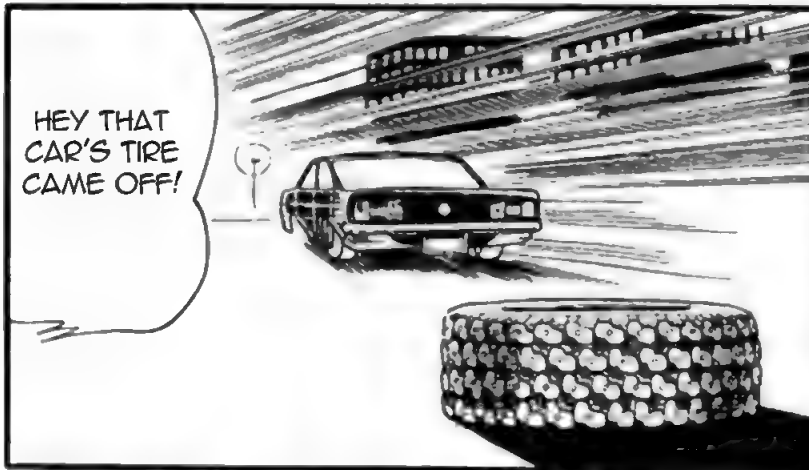
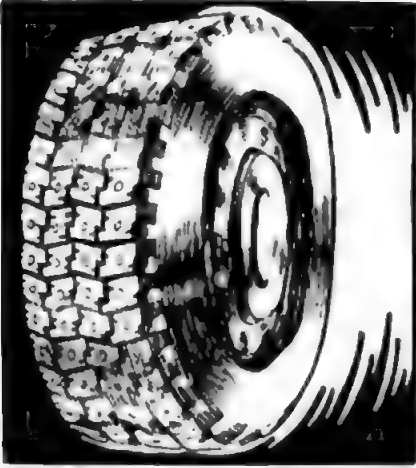
\*FORMER PREMIER OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

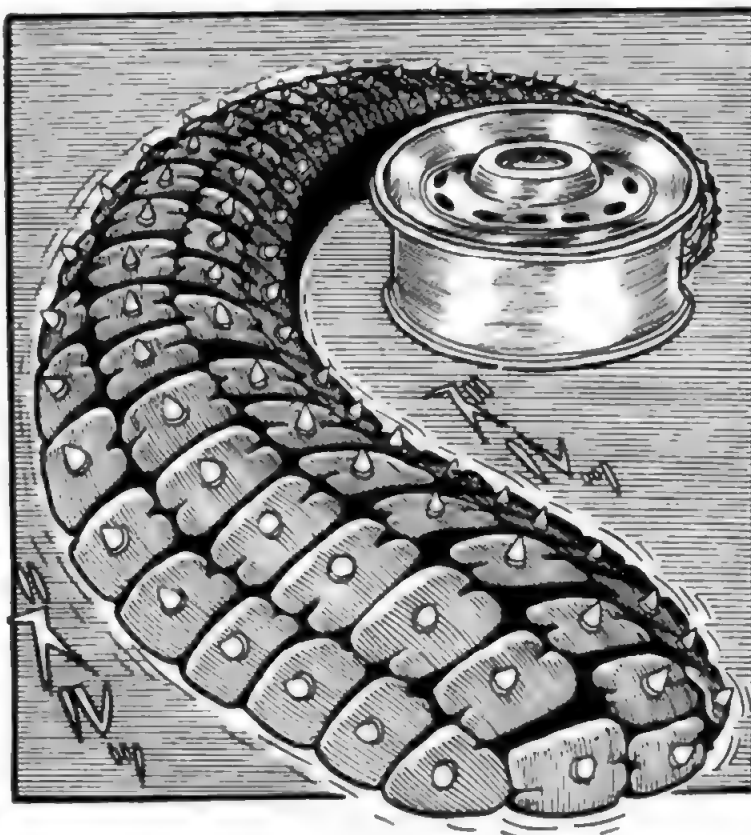
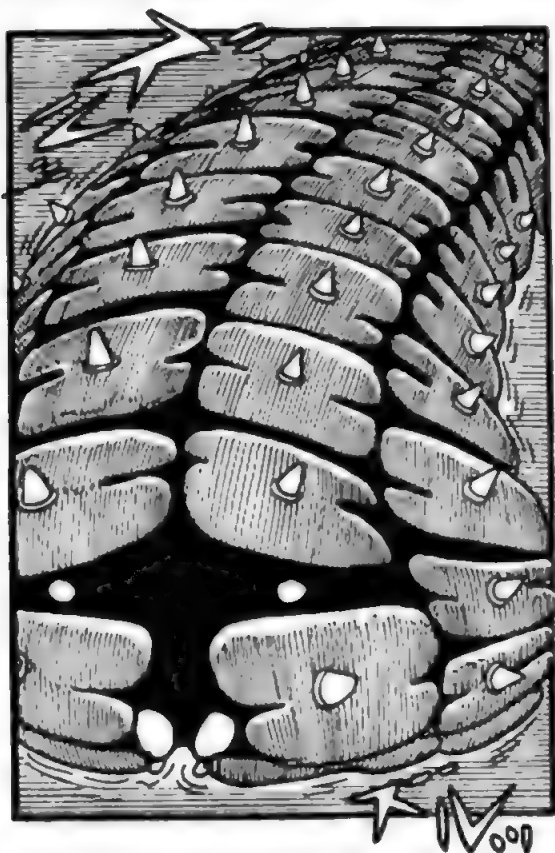


\*PRIME MINISTER (1972-74) KAKUEI TANAKA  
WHO LATER WAS CONVICTED OF BRIBERY

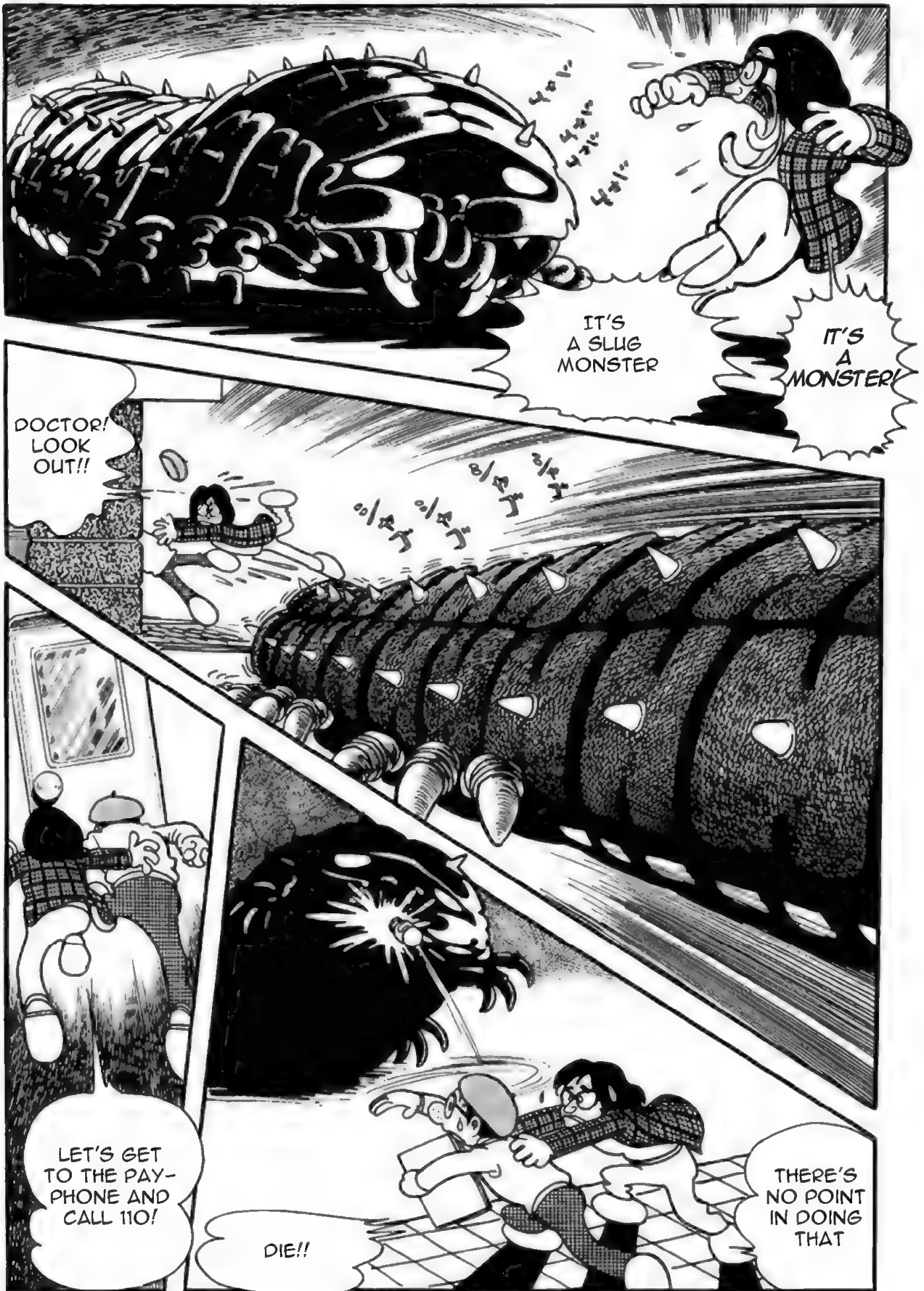


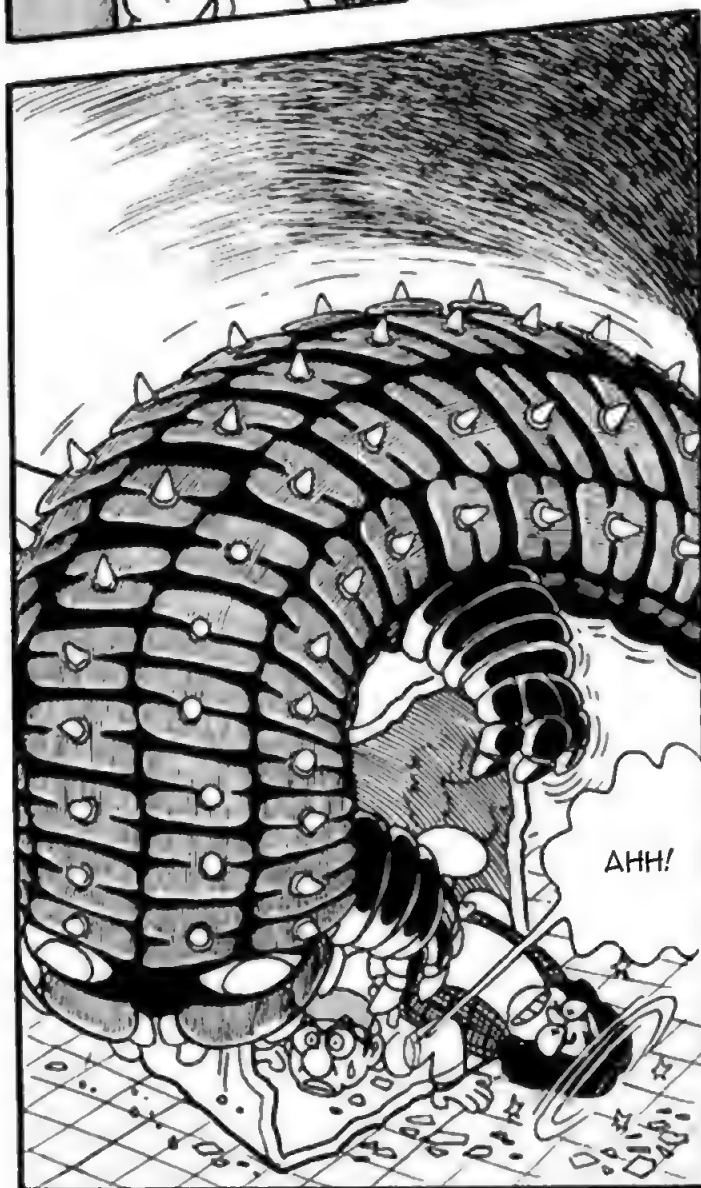


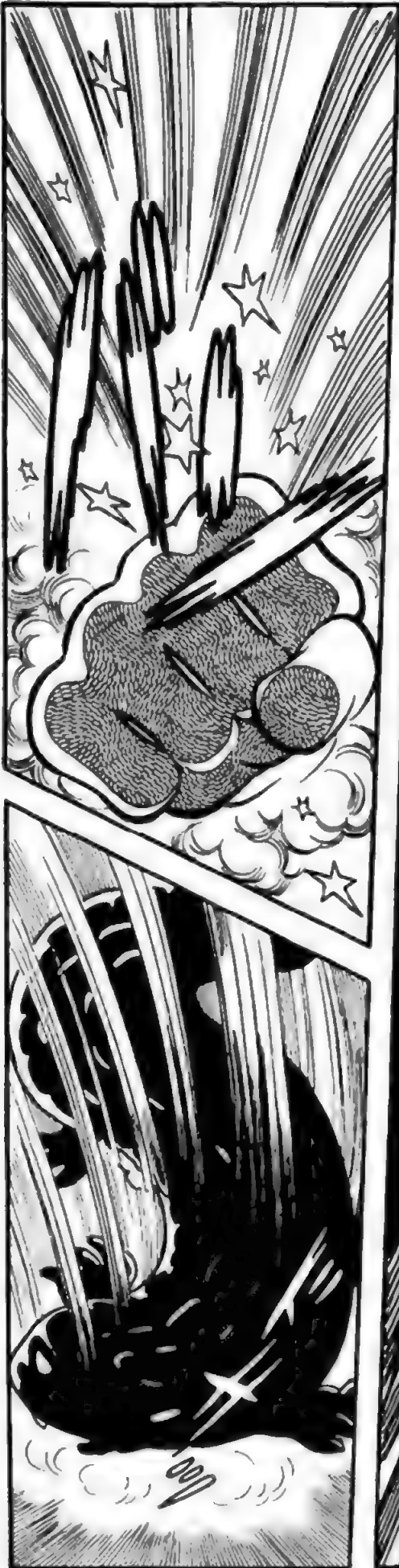




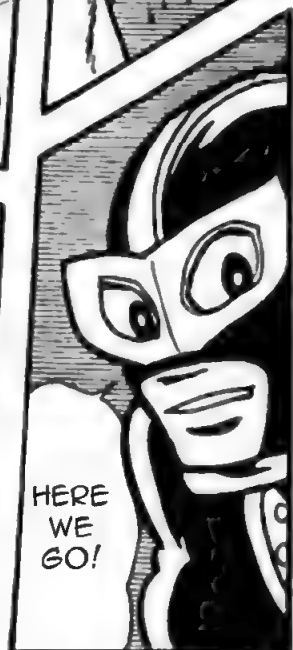
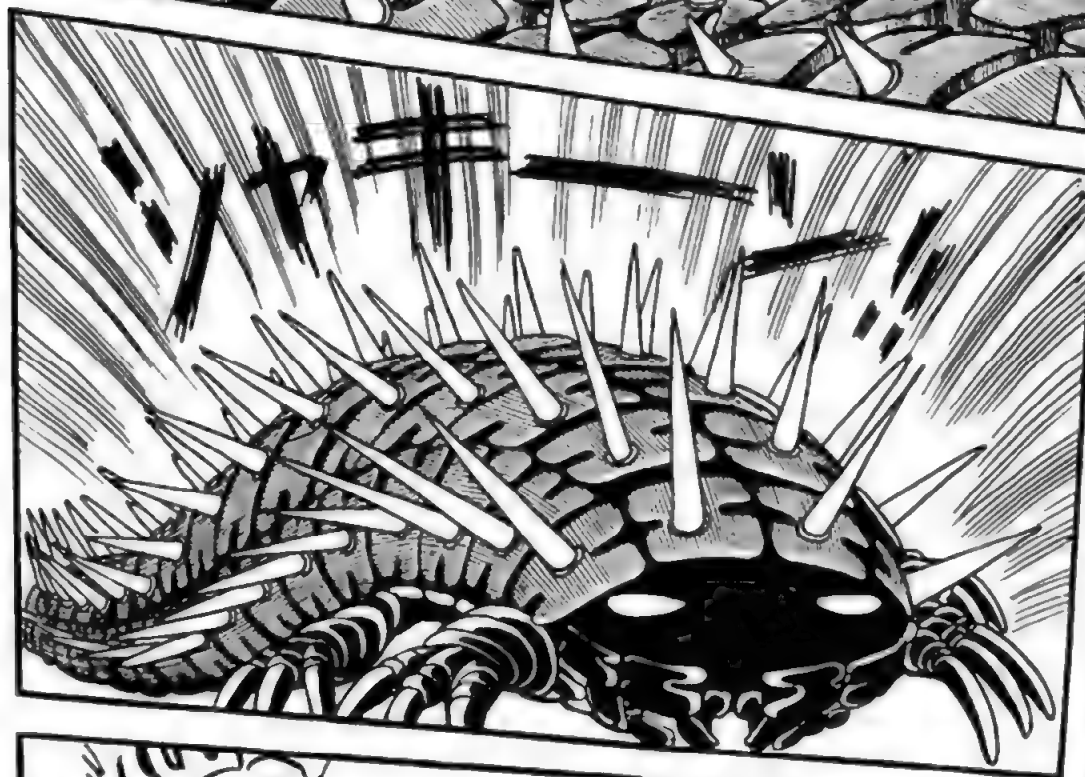










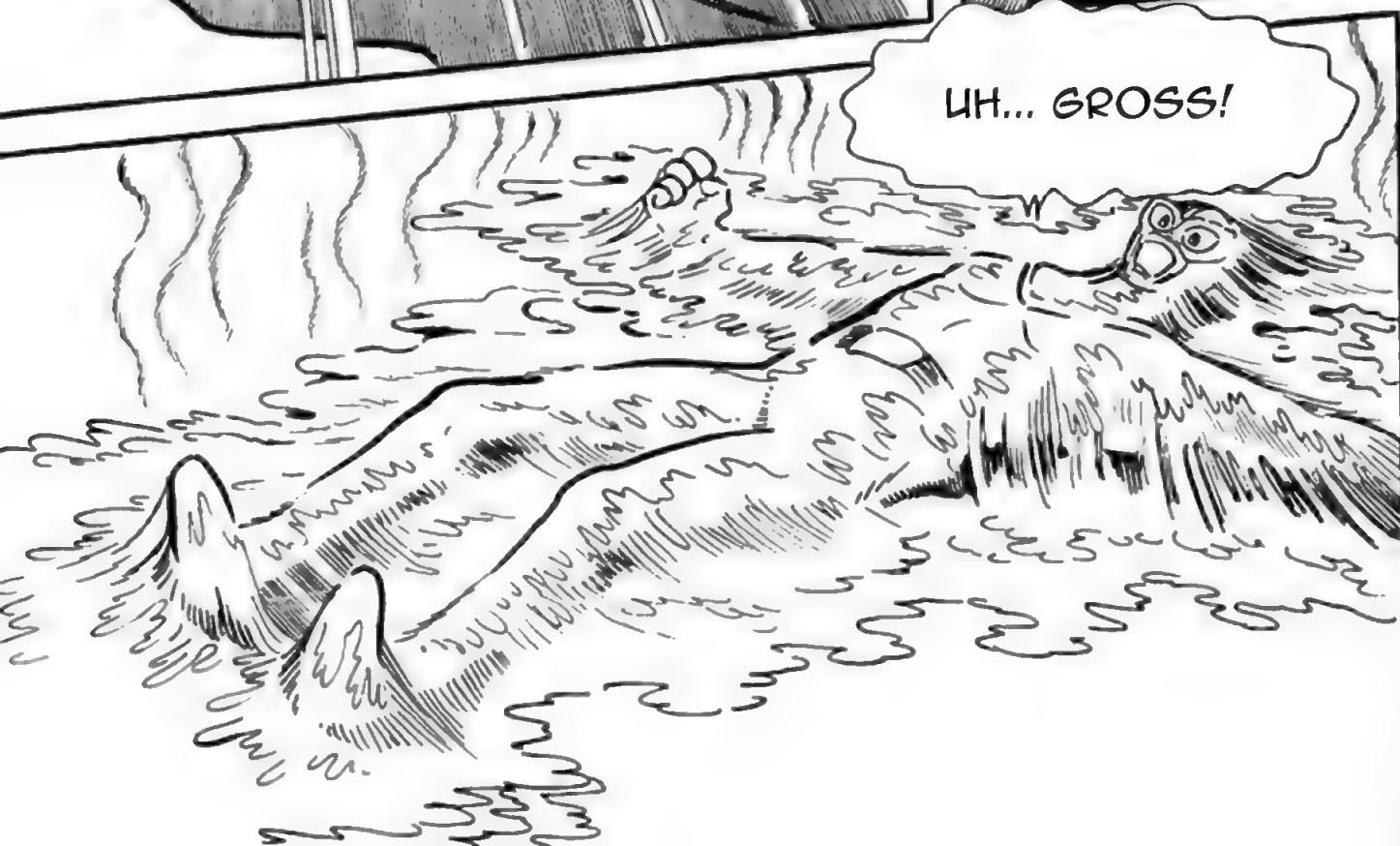


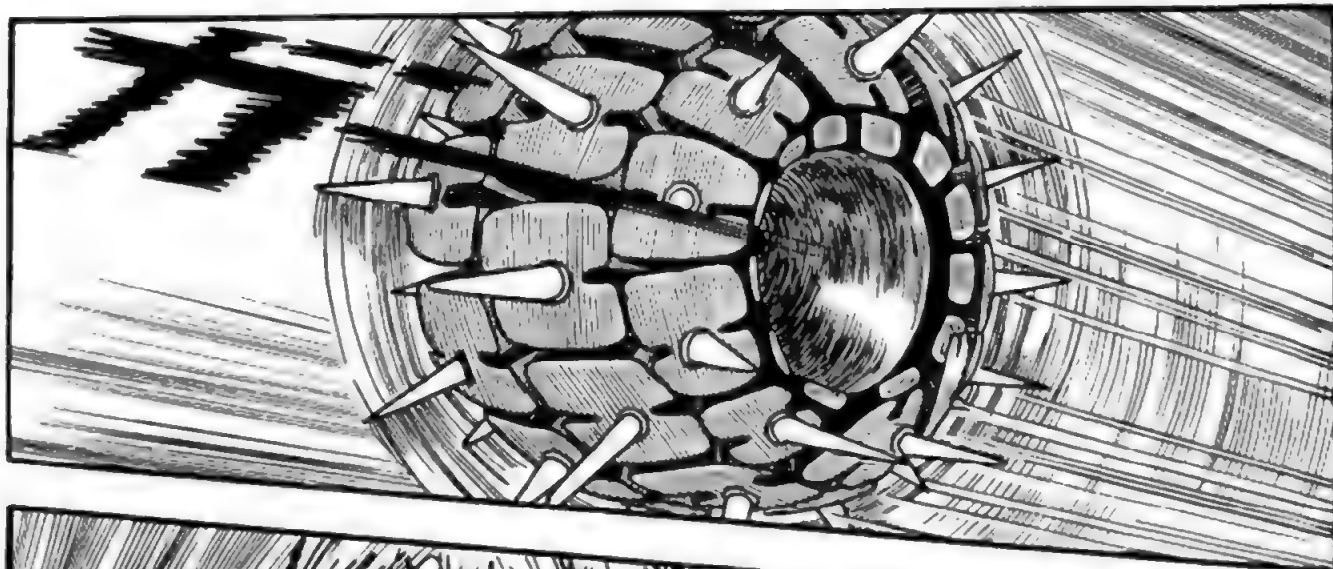


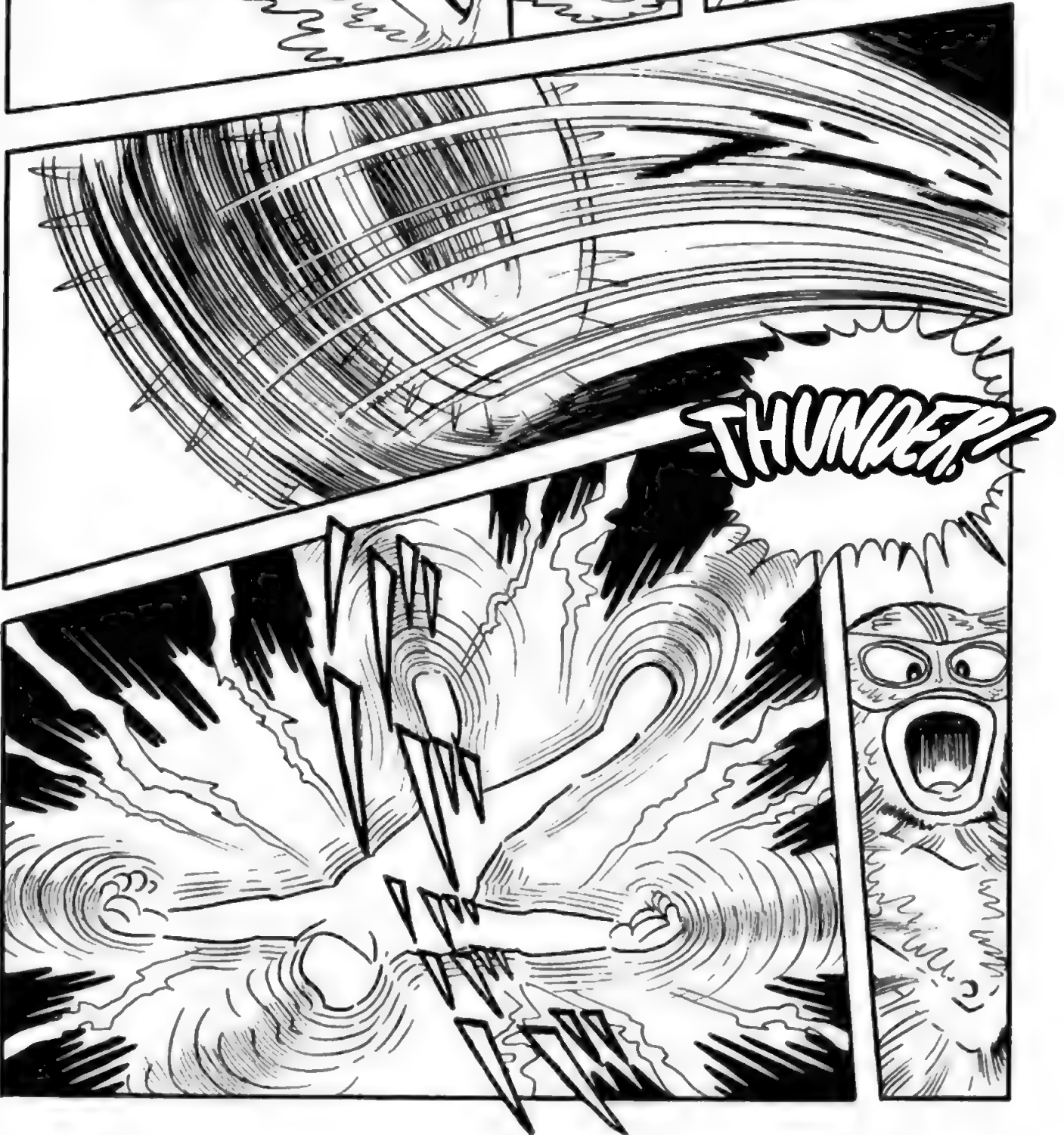
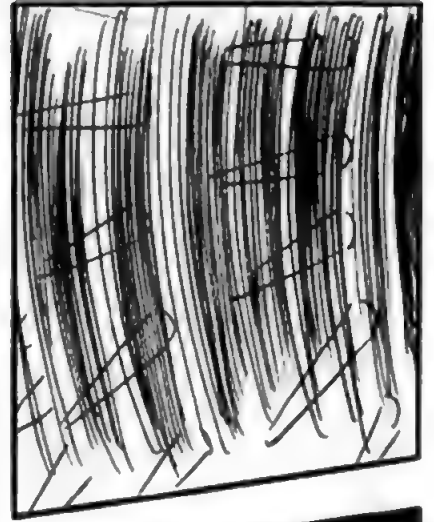


**KRAK-A-BOOM**

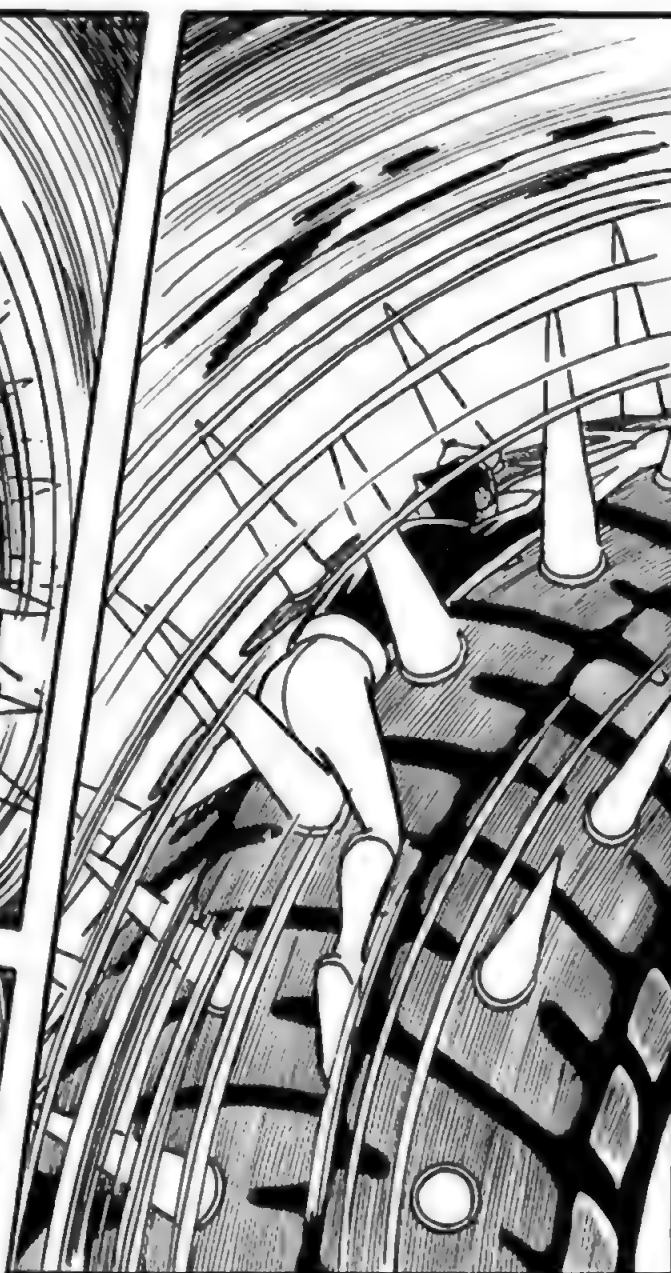
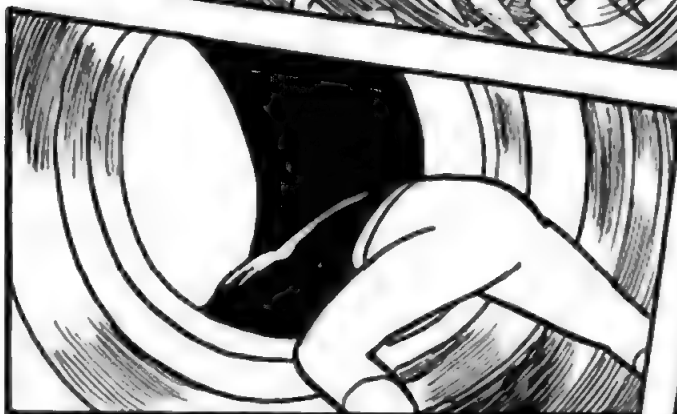
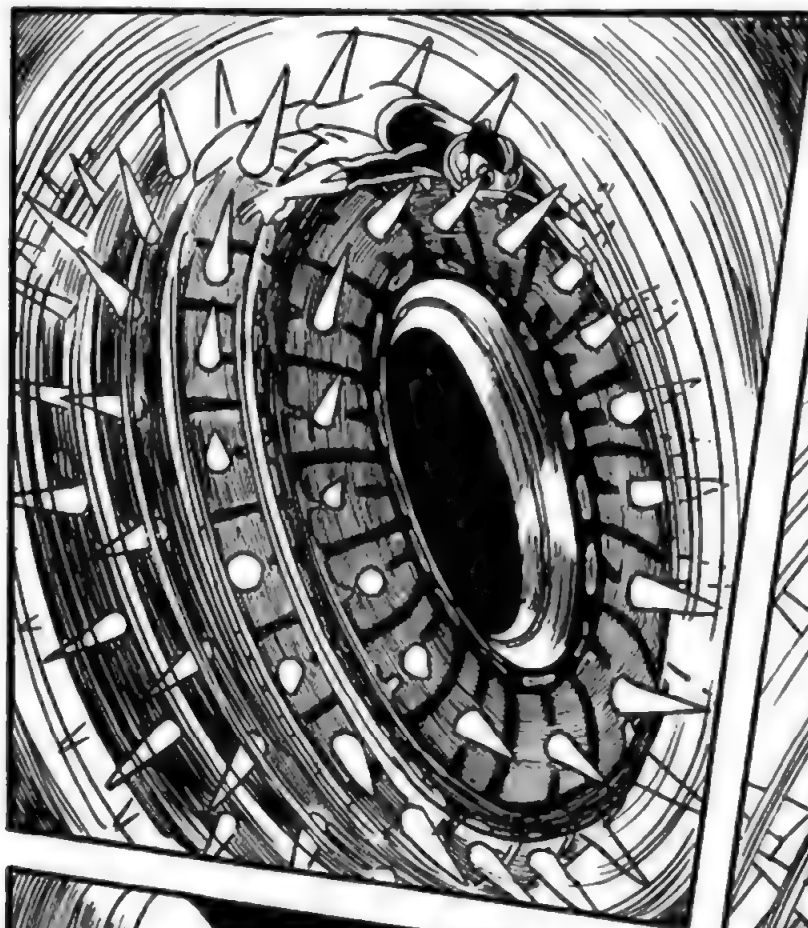
UH... GROSS!

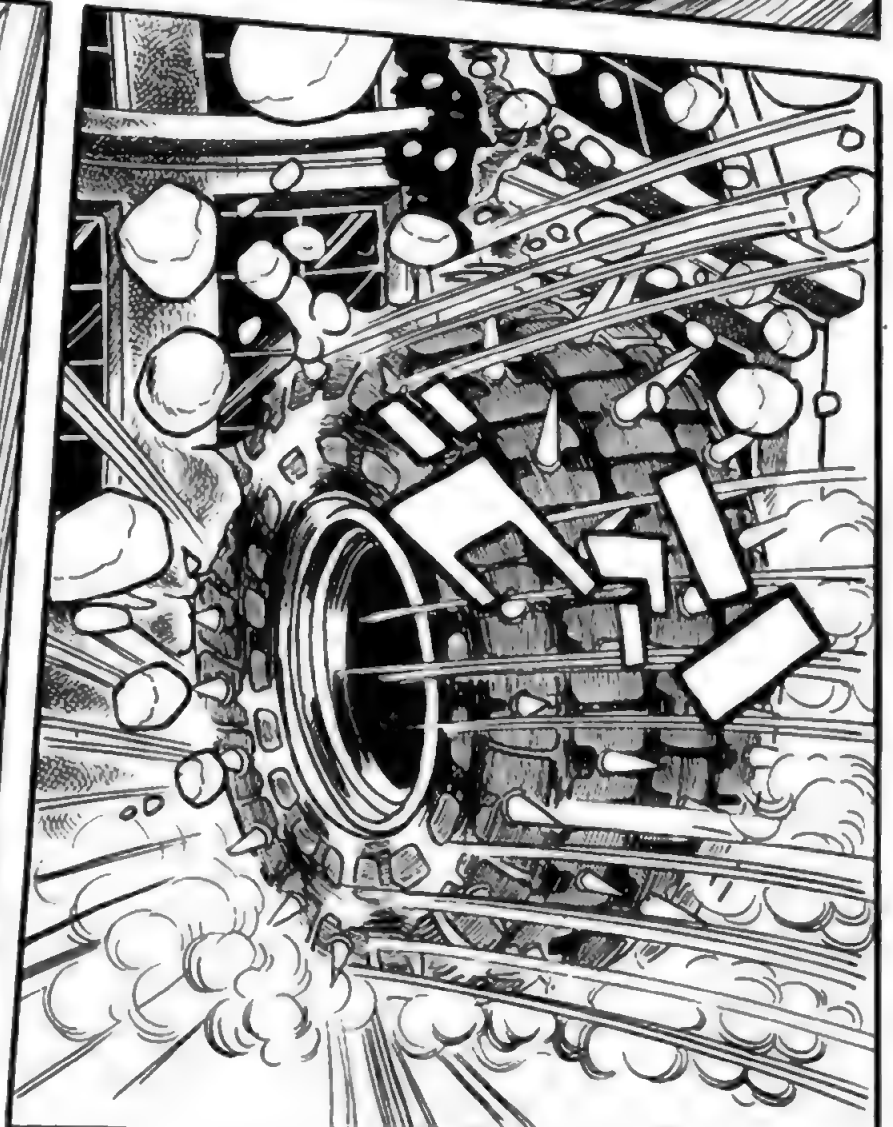
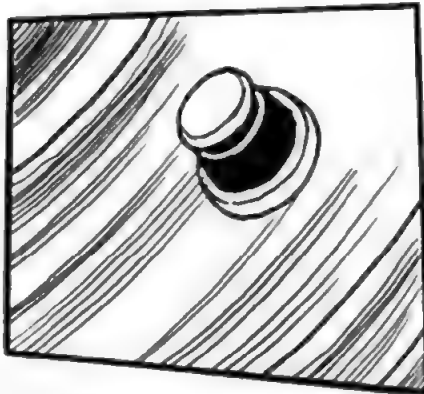
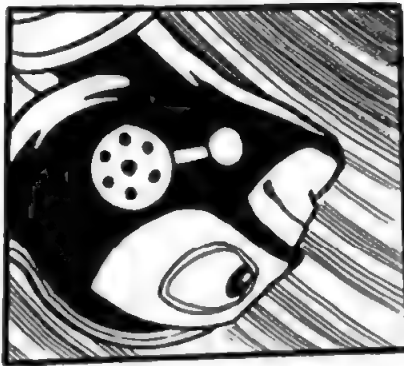


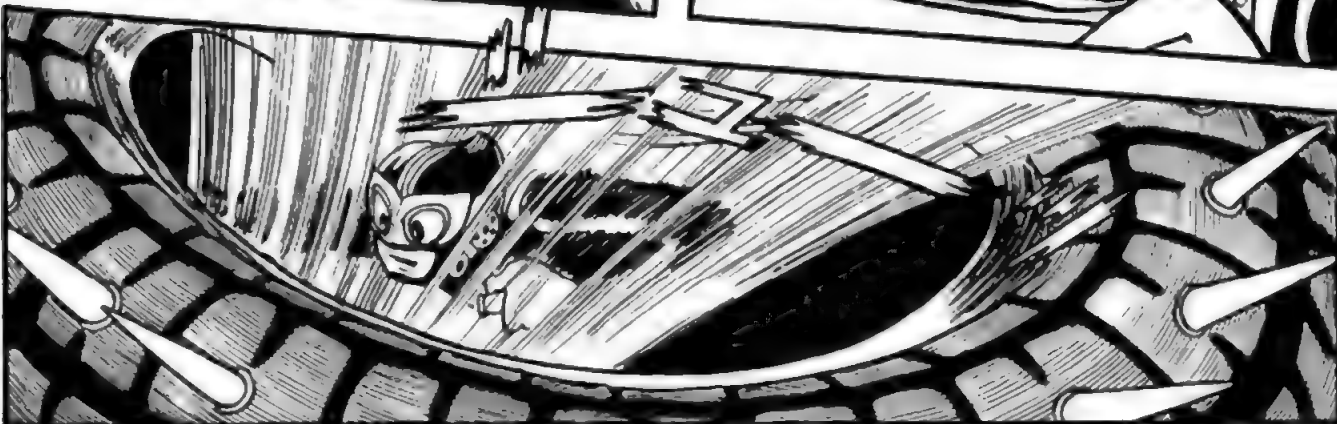
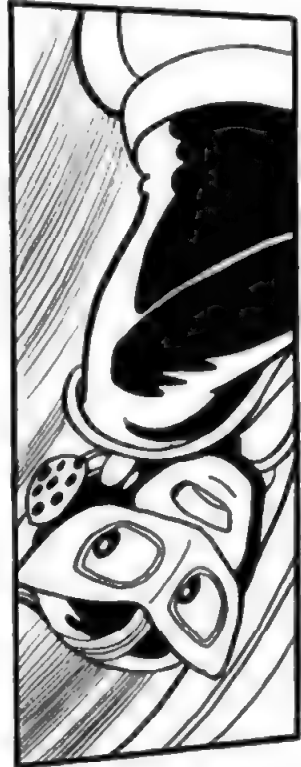
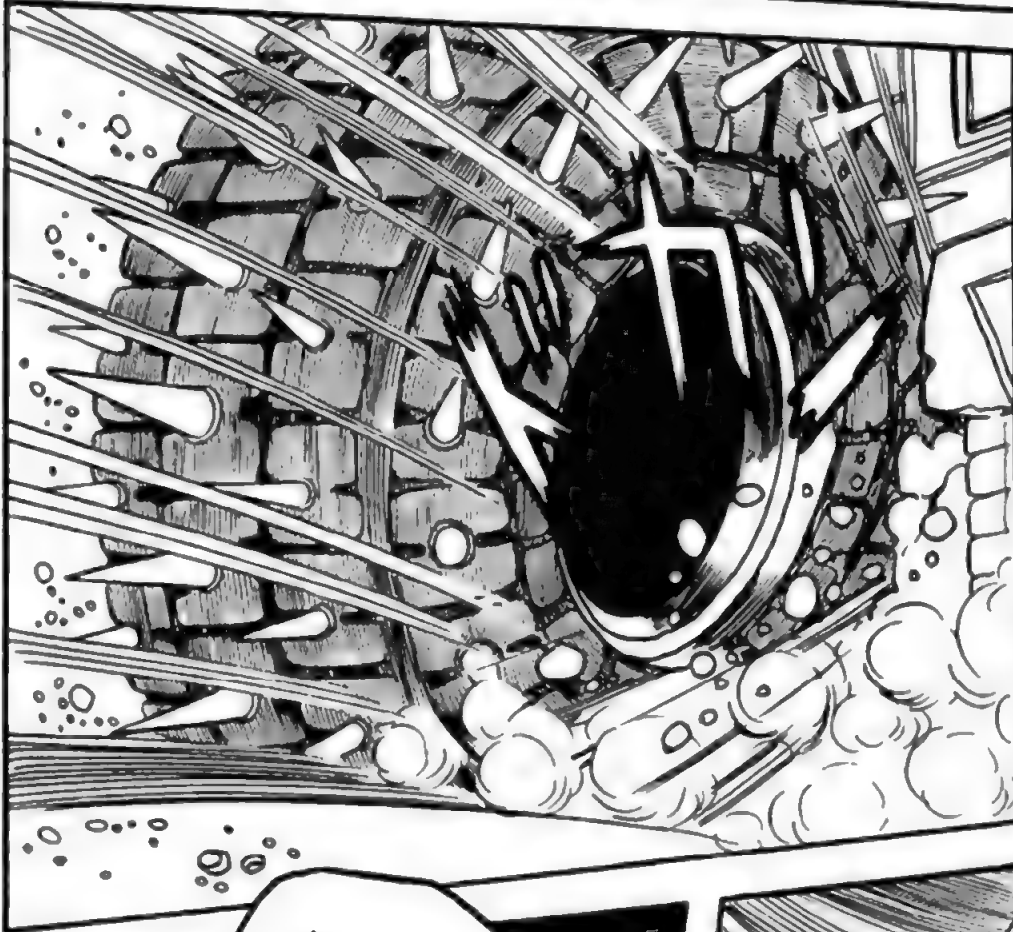
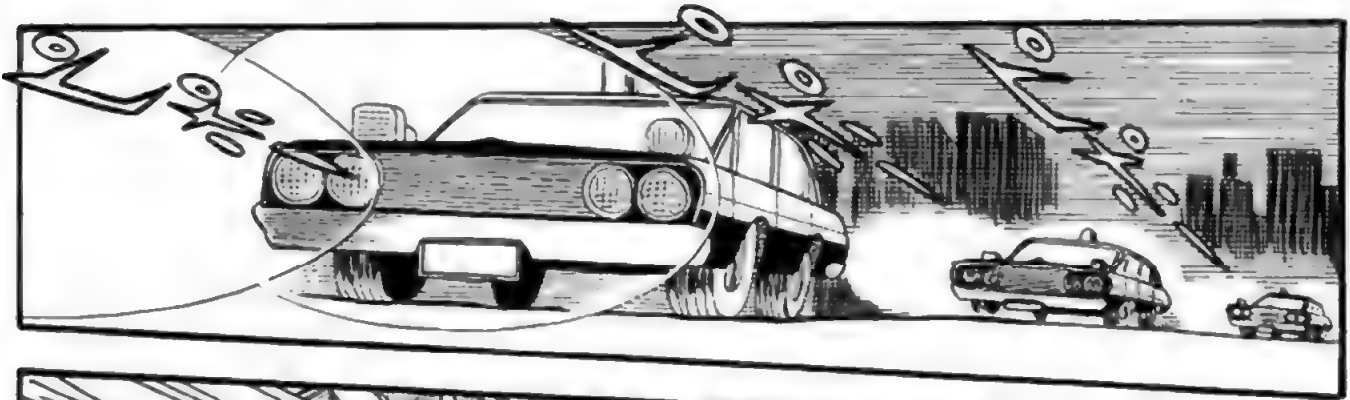




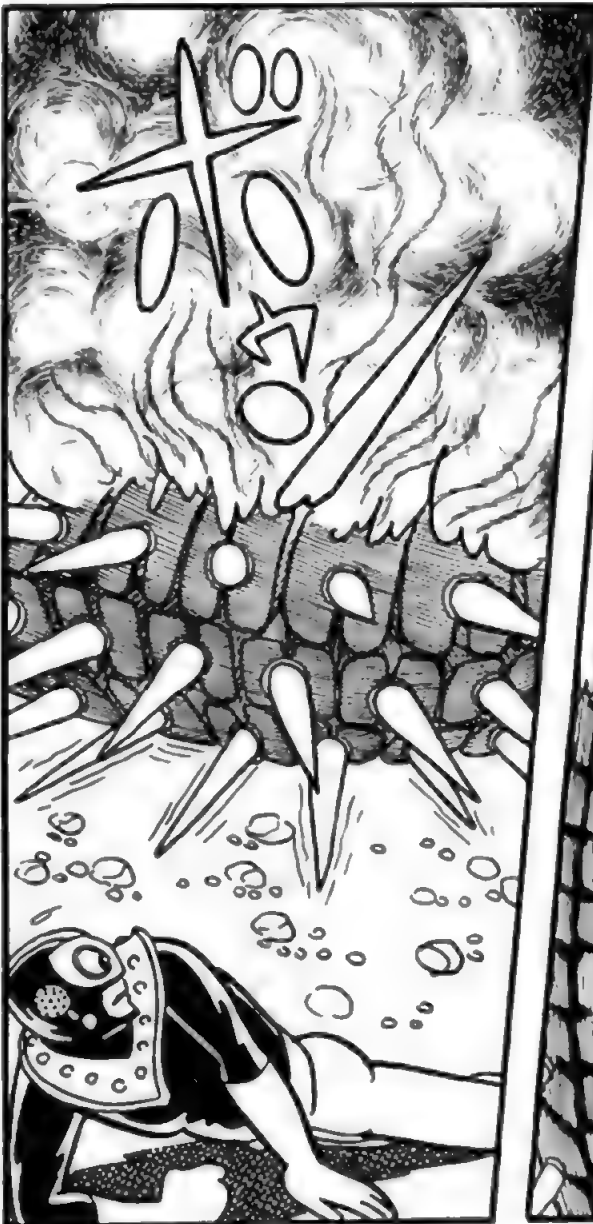


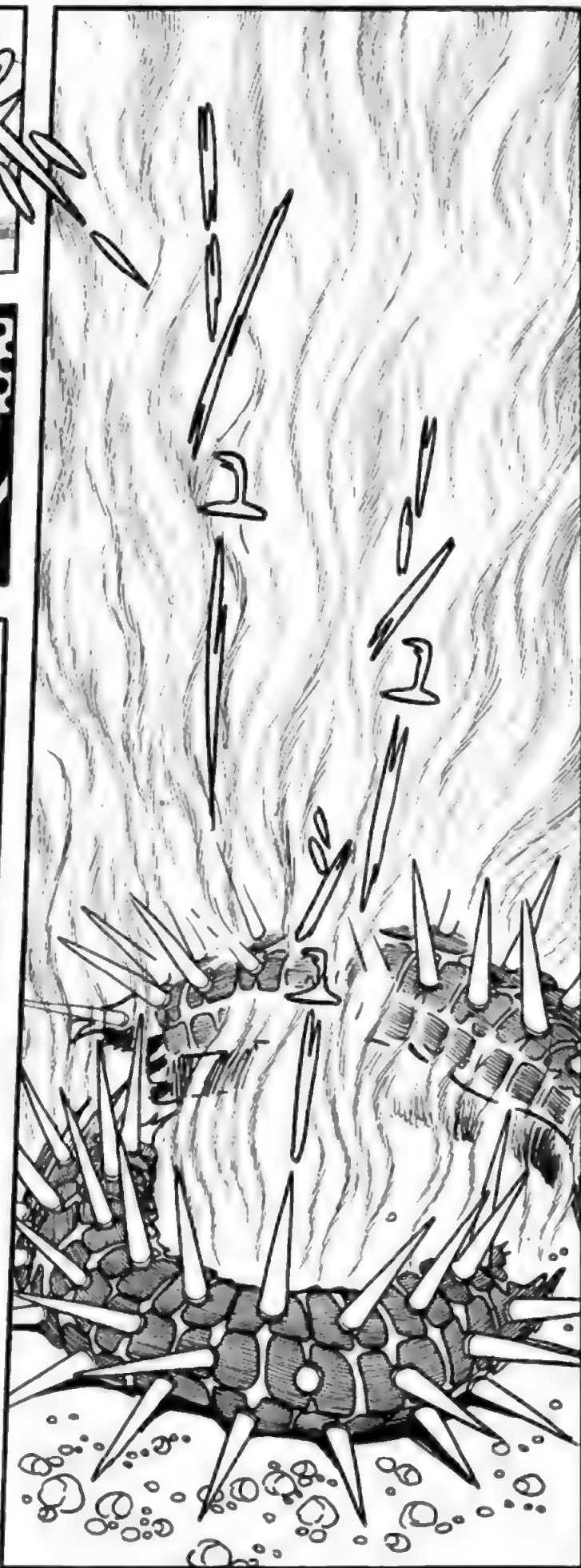
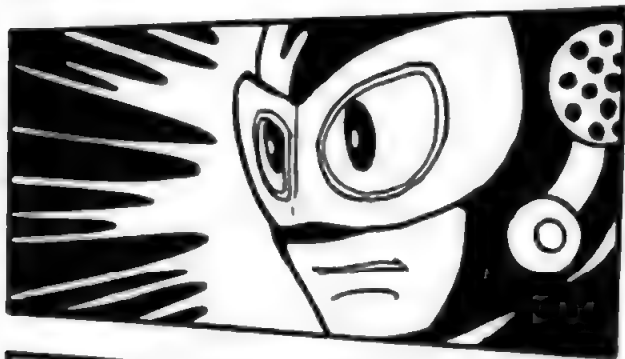
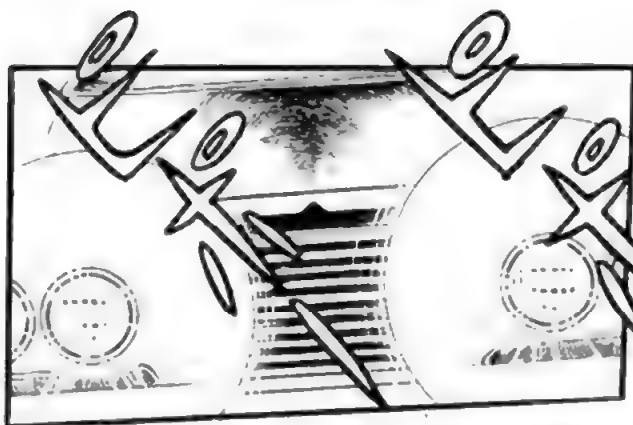


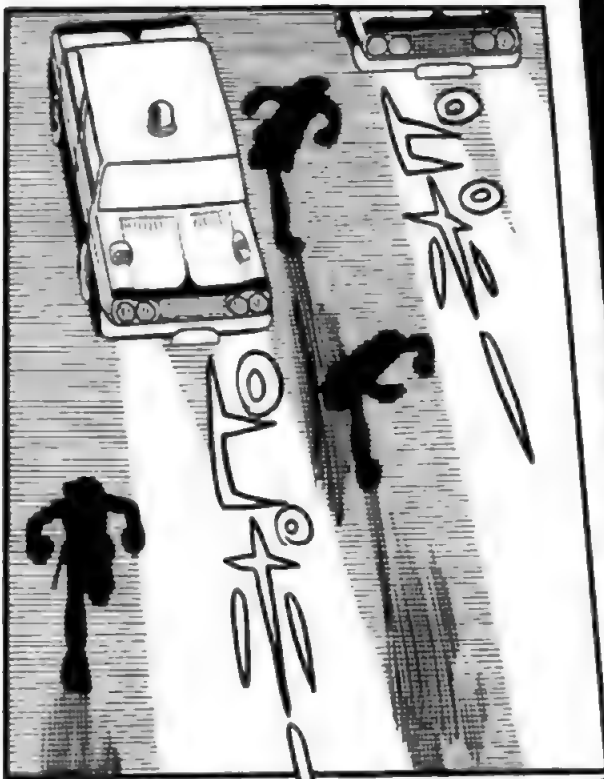




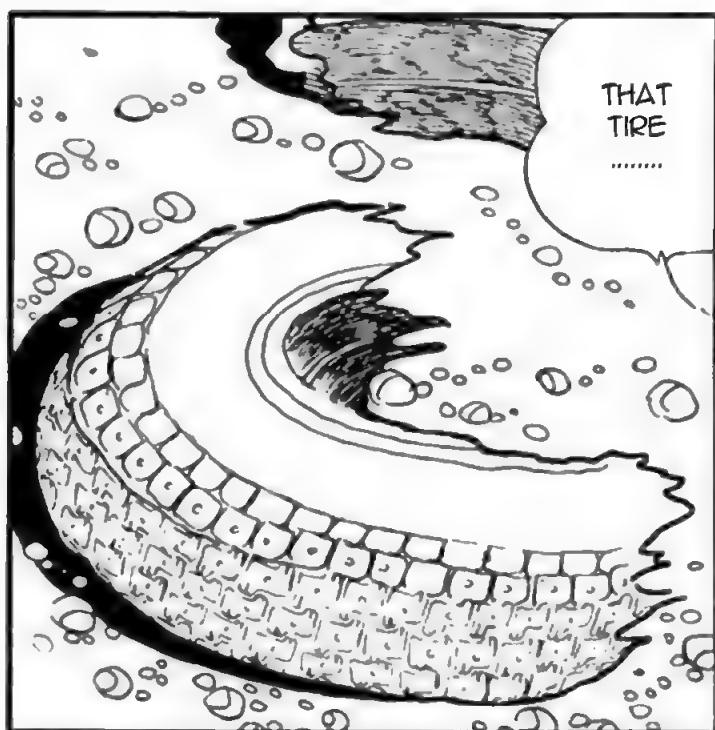
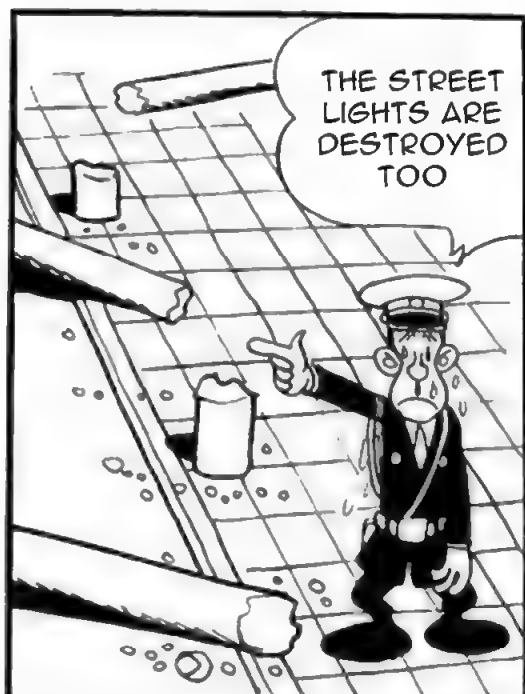








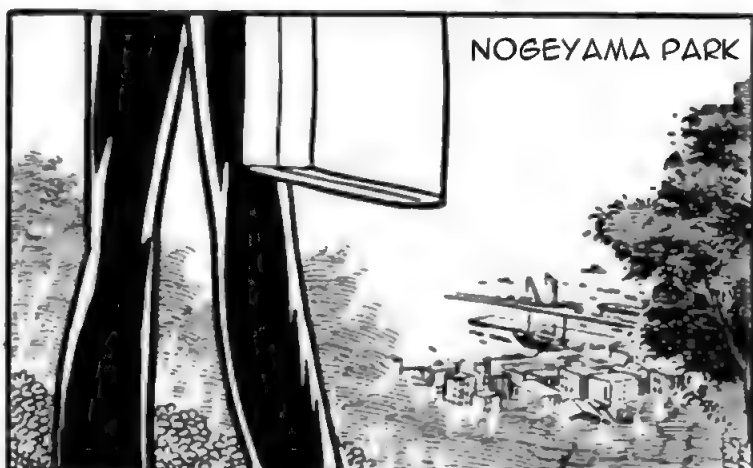
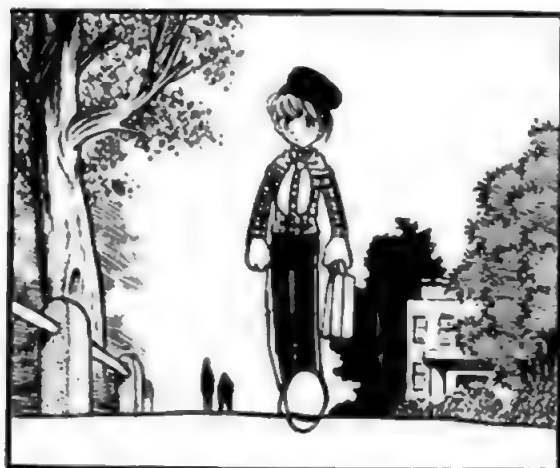
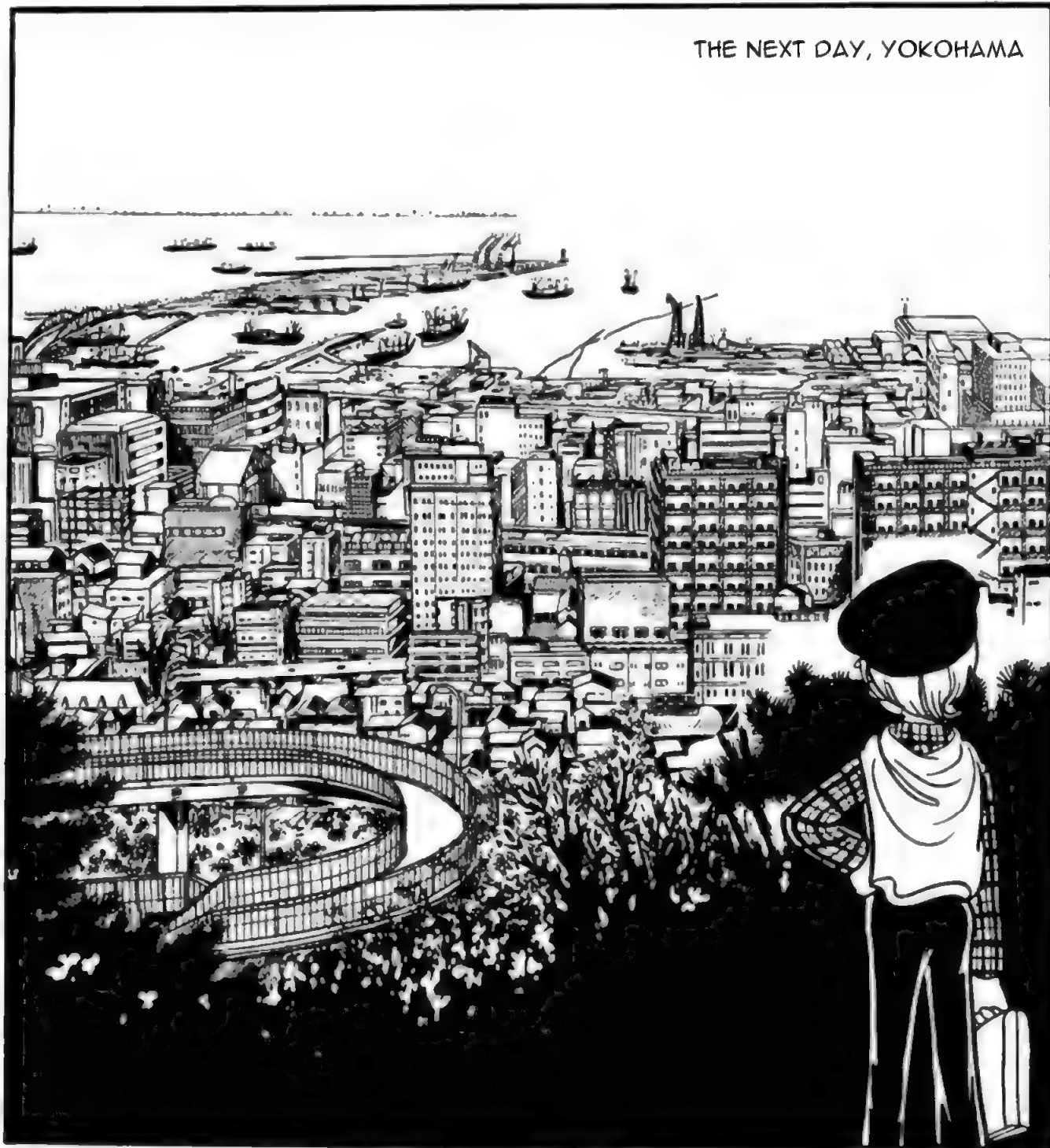




## 第3章

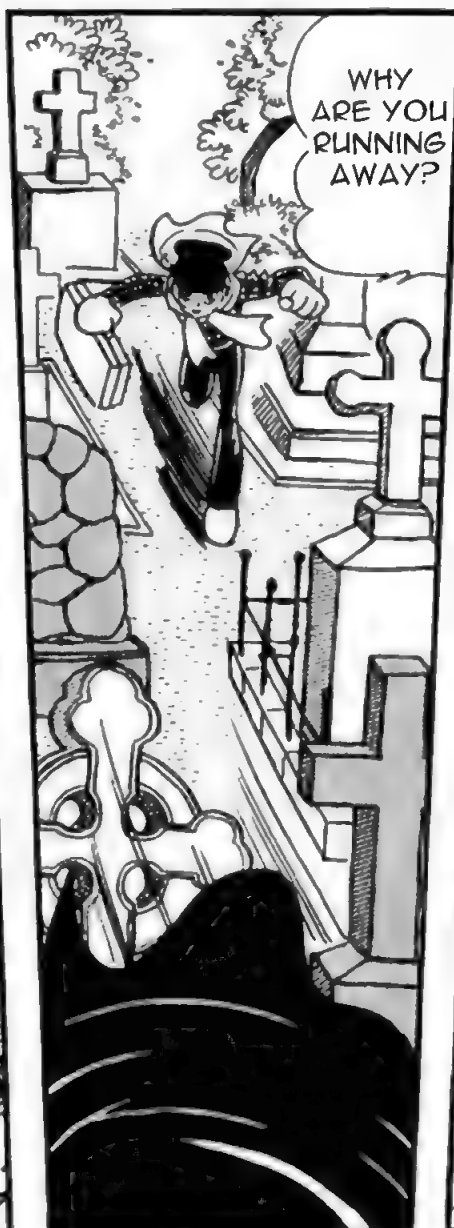
DEKANDER

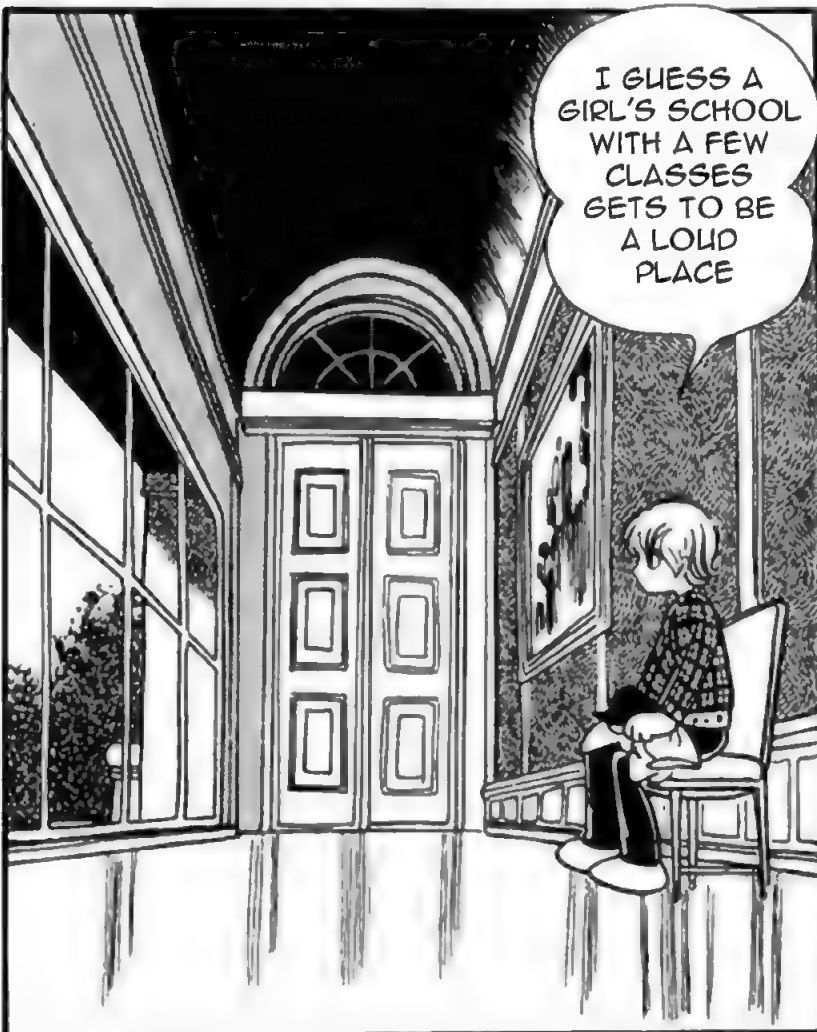
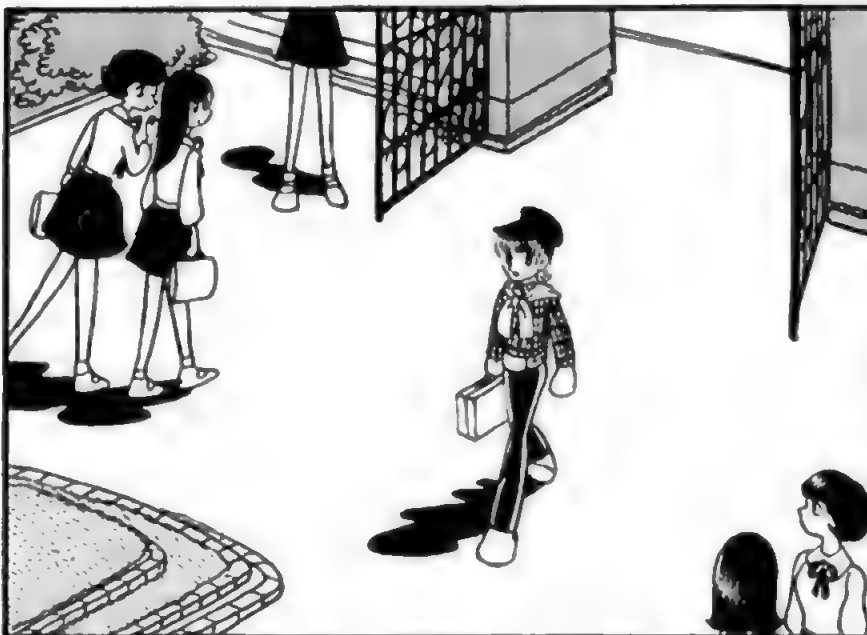
THE NEXT DAY, YOKOHAMA











I GUESS A  
GIRL'S SCHOOL  
WITH A FEW  
CLASSES  
GETS TO BE  
A LOUD  
PLACE

PLEASE  
LEAVE YOUR  
NAME AND  
MESSAGE  
HERE AND  
I'LL SEND IT  
TO THE  
CLASS  
ROOM

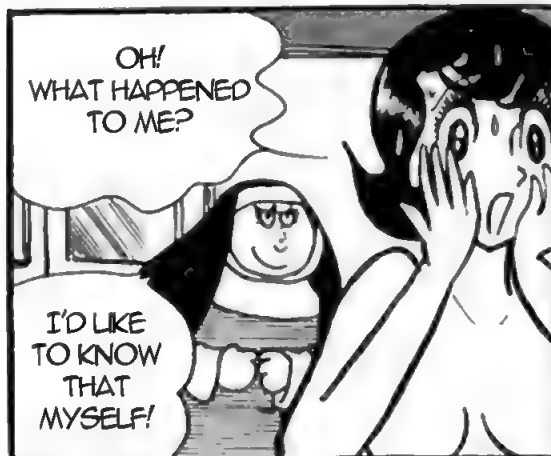
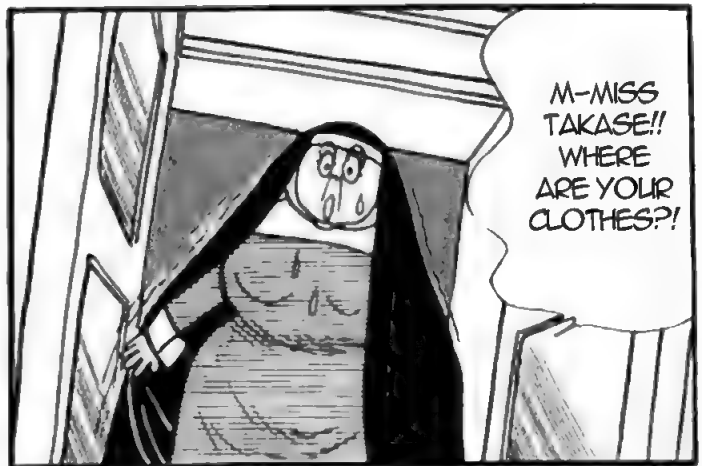
I'D LIKE  
TO MEET  
MAYUMI  
TAKASE  
FROM  
CLASS  
2A

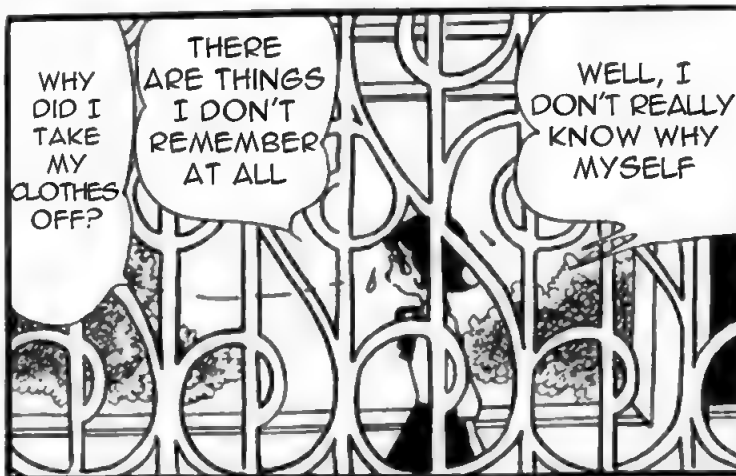
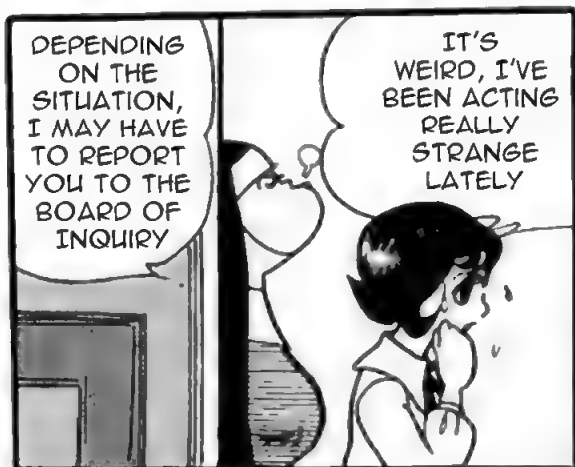
I'M SORRY, BUT  
AT OUR SCHOOL,  
WE HAVE TO MAKE  
SURE THAT THE  
PERSON IN  
QUESTION  
IS OKAY  
BEFORE  
VISITING

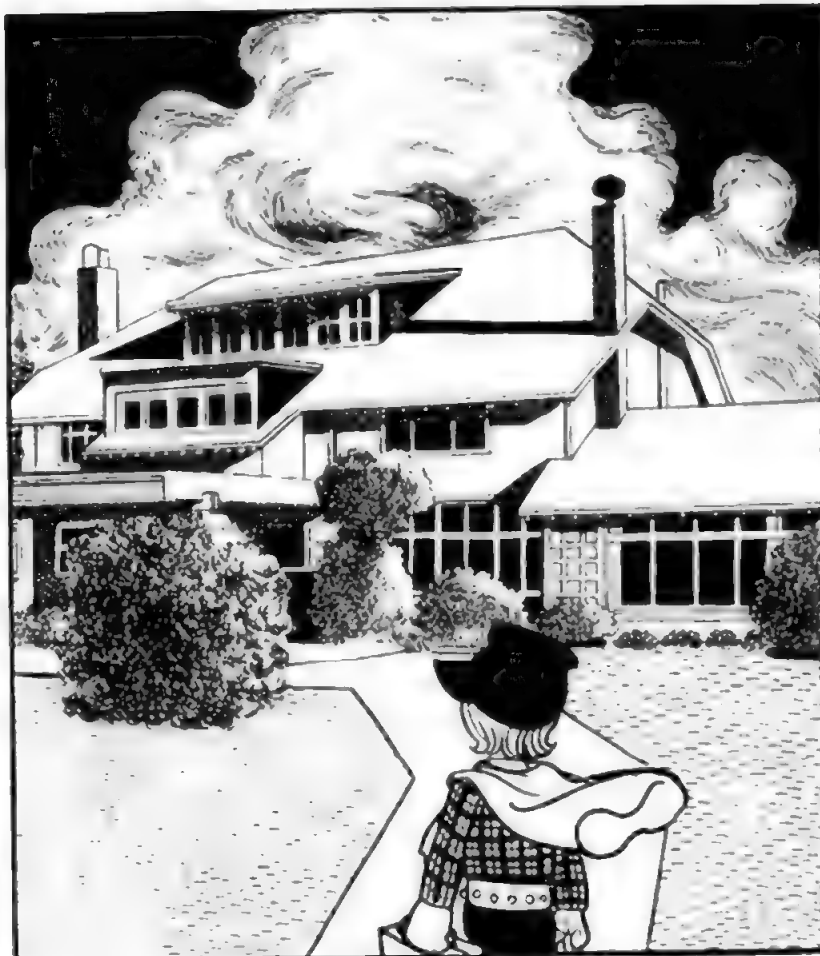
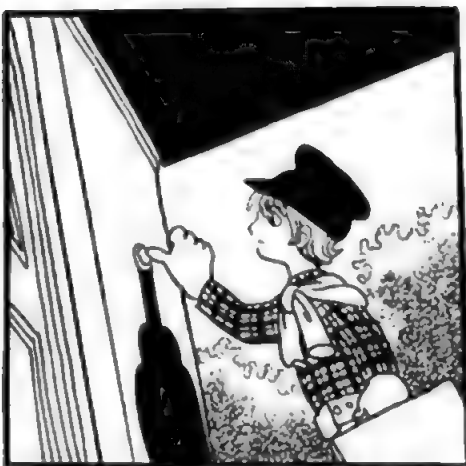
SHE'S  
IN A  
CLASS?





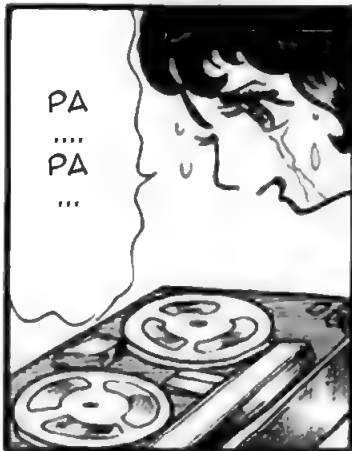
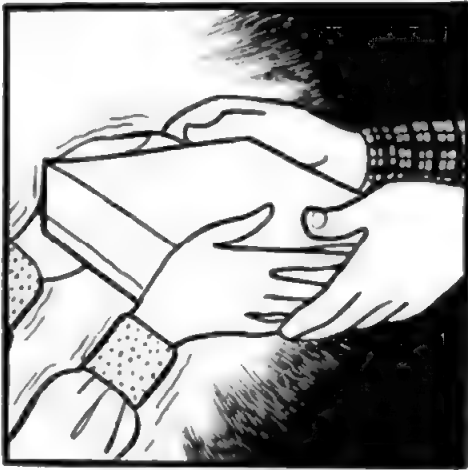












IS IT  
JUST HER  
HANDS, OR  
HER WHOLE  
BODY?

WHY  
ARE HER  
HANDS  
SO  
COLD?



IT SEEMS  
TO HAVE  
FALLEN  
THERE  
LIKE A  
METEORITE

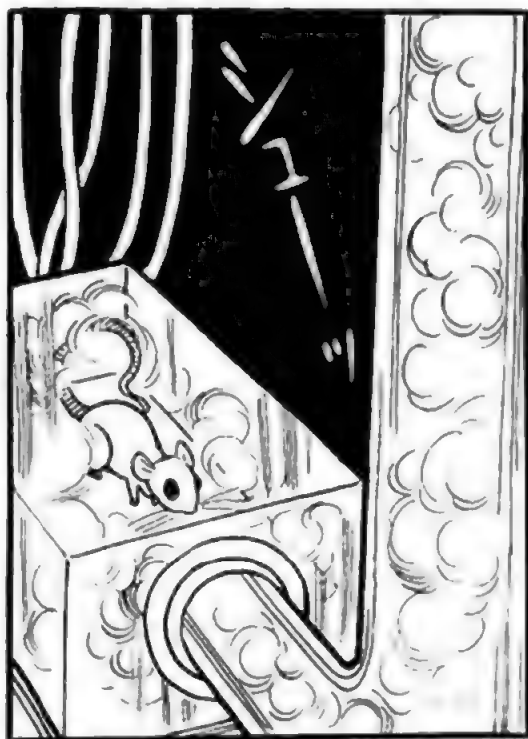
PAPA  
DISCOVERED  
A MYSTERIOUS  
OBJECT IN THE  
MOUNTAINS  
OF YORO IN  
THE Gifu  
PREFECTURE

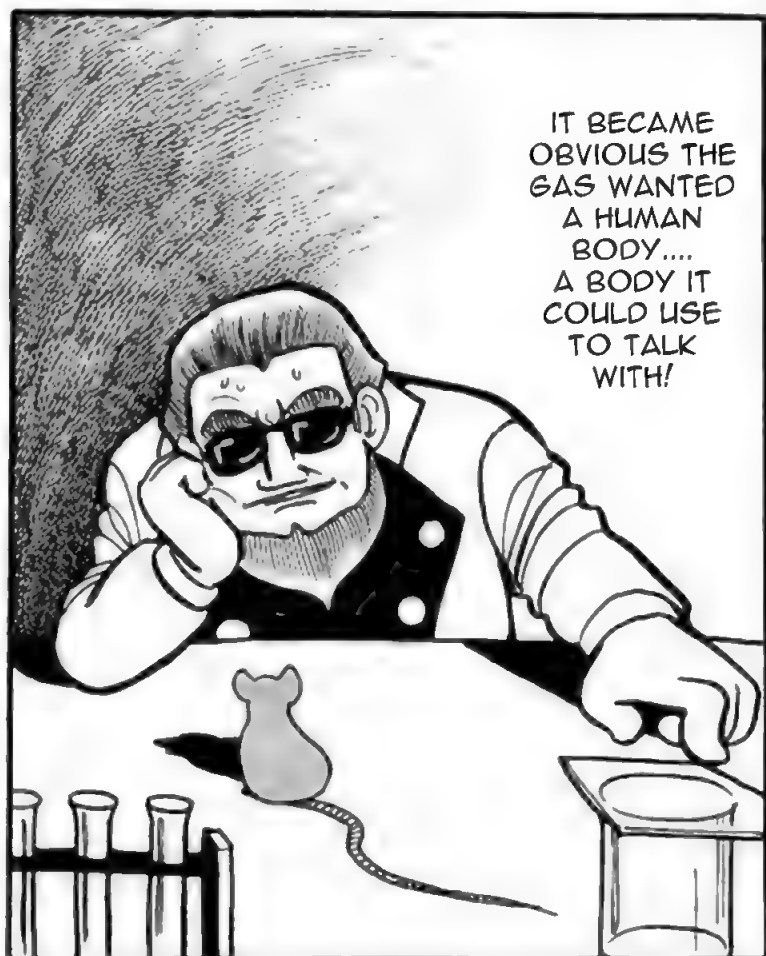
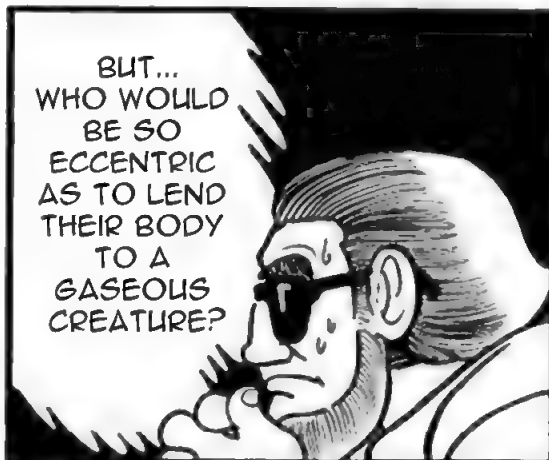
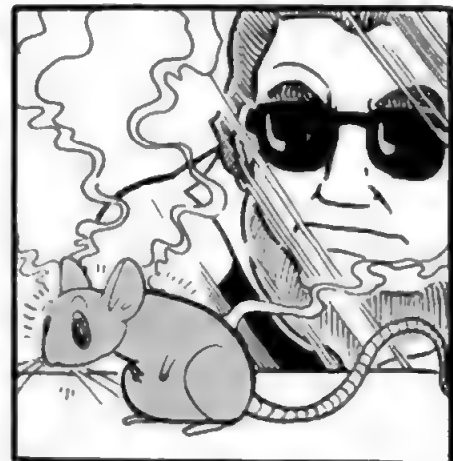
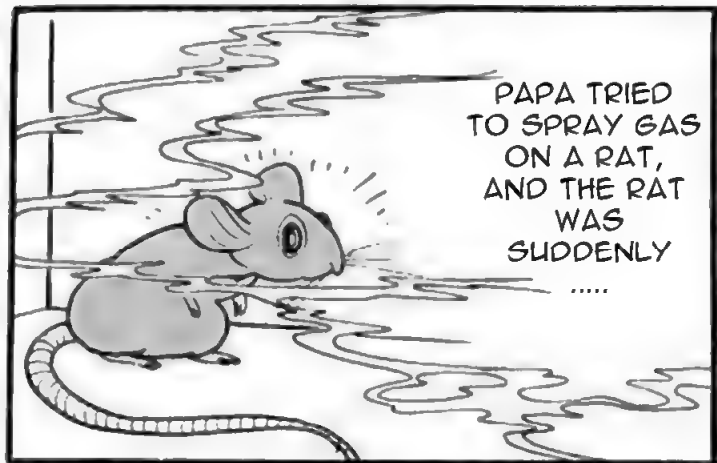
KATSUYA,  
MAYUMI,  
PLEASE  
LISTEN  
TO ME



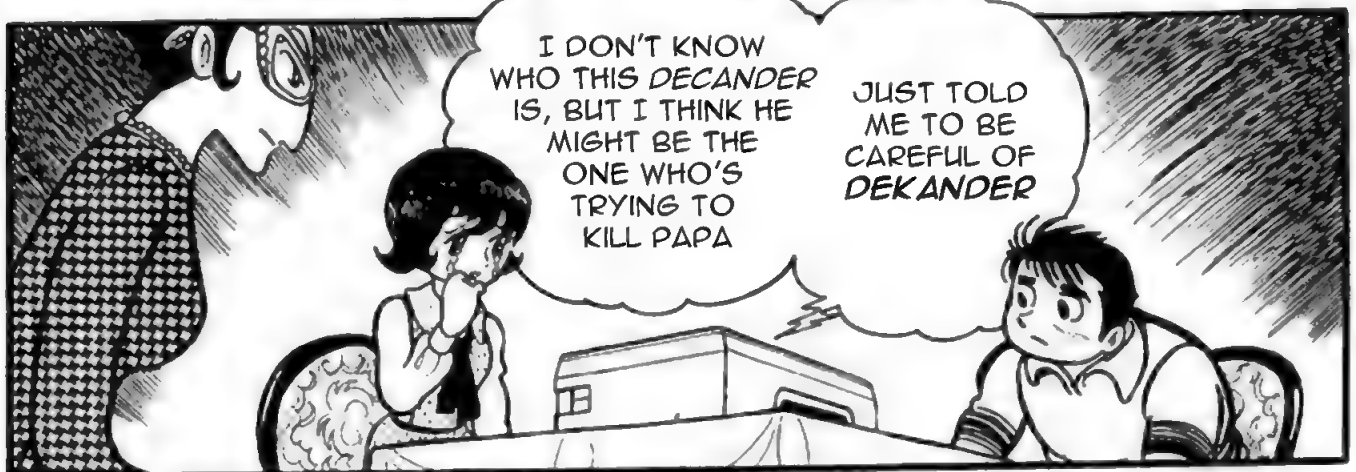
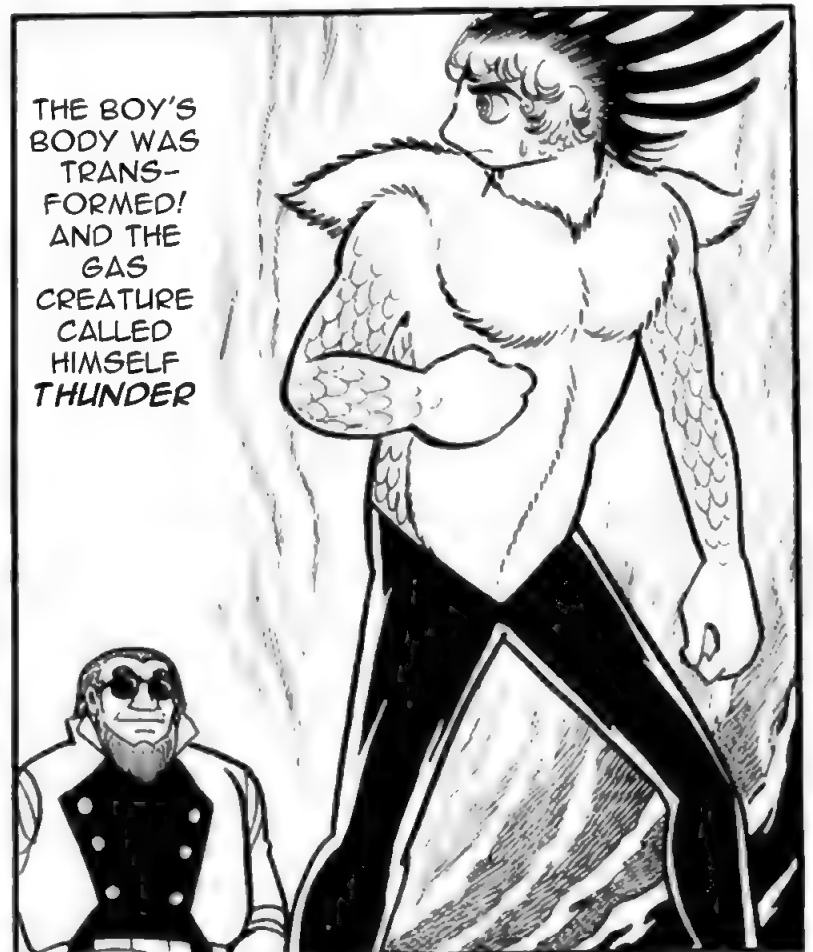
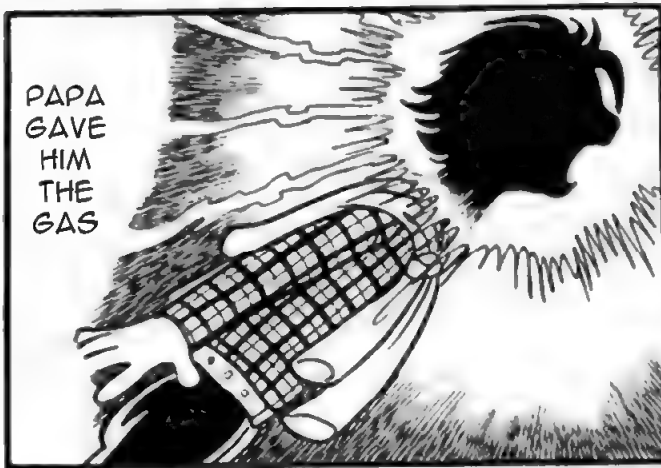
THERE WAS  
A GAS TRAPPED  
INSIDE OF THE  
POURIOUS  
STONE









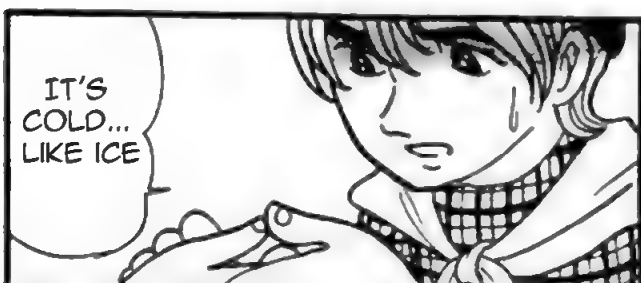


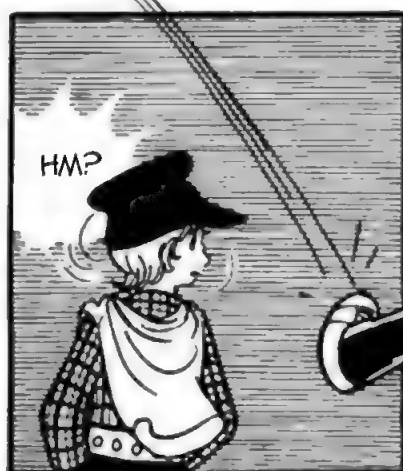


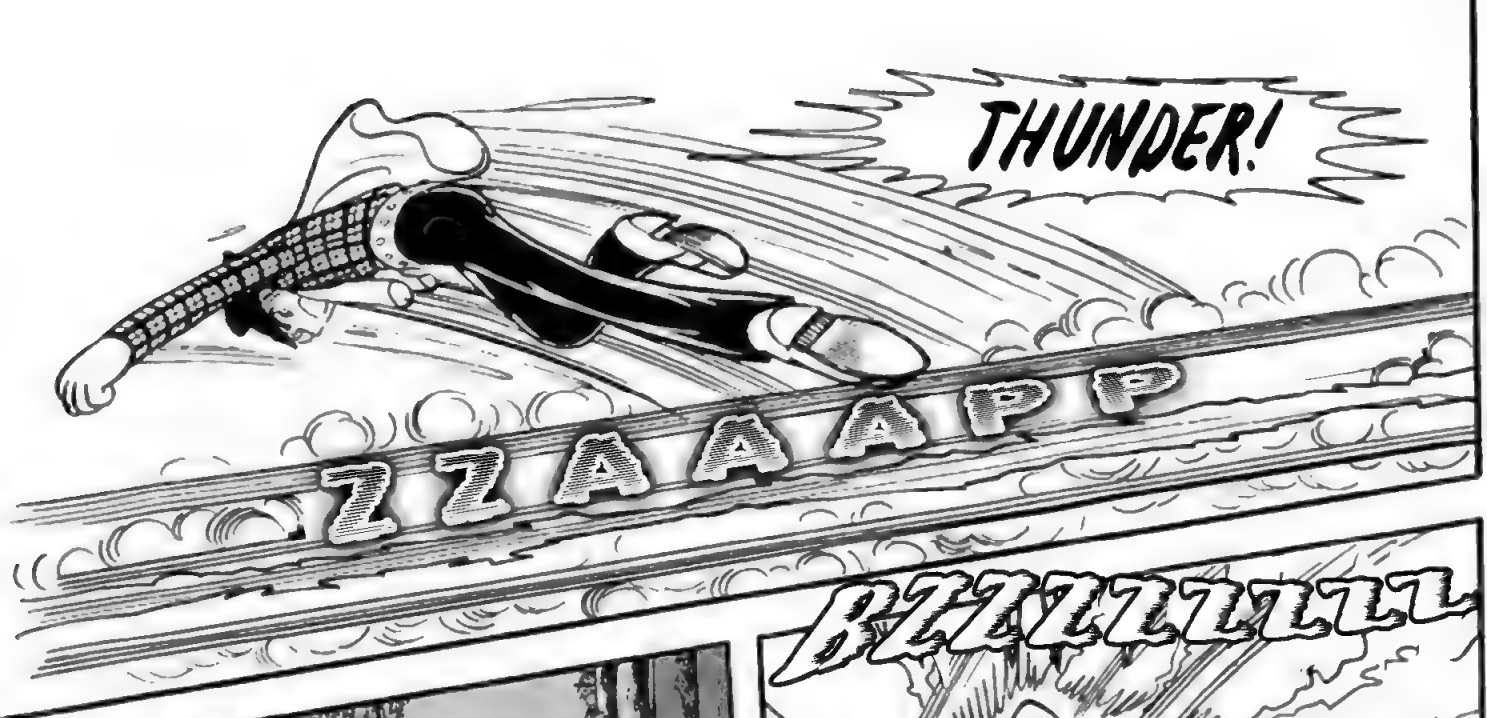


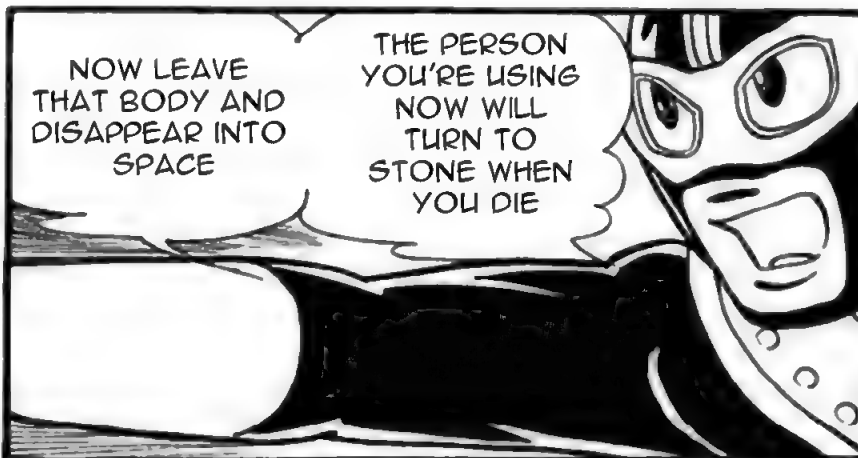
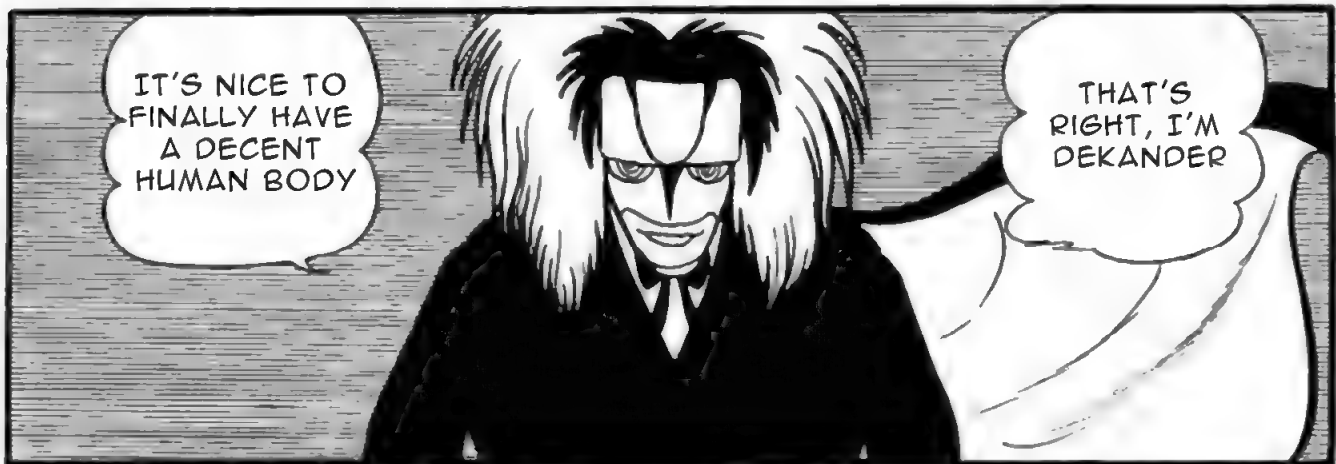
















THUNDER!  
I'M NOT  
LETTING YOU  
OFF EASY



BEHOLD  
MY META-  
MORPHOSIS

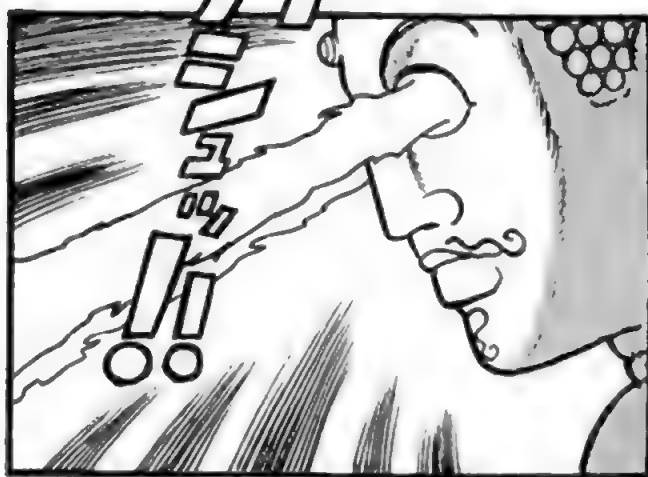




WAIT!  
IT'S TOO  
LATE TO RUN  
AWAY NOW!

WHERE'D YOU  
HIDE, DEKANDER?



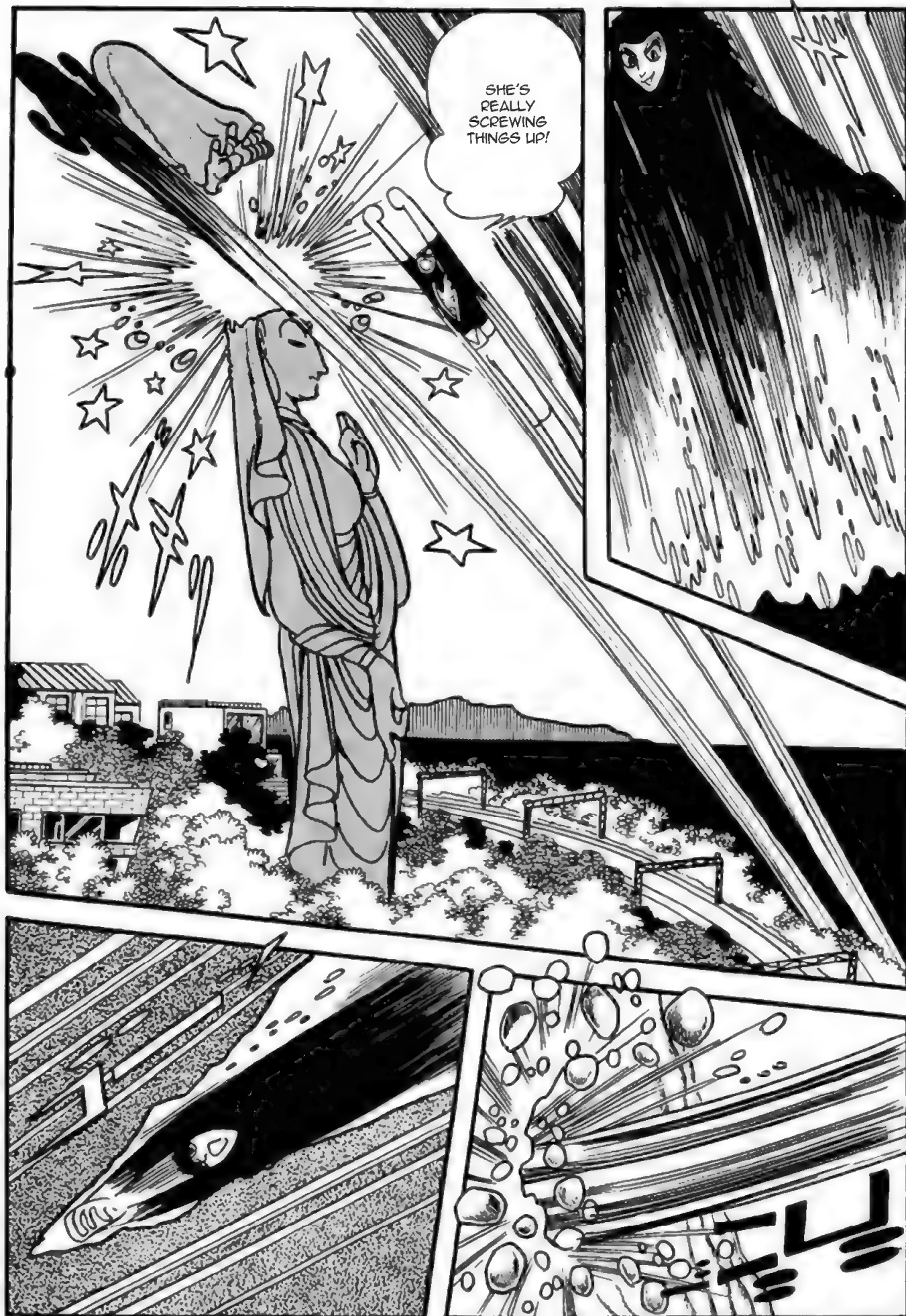
















WE'RE  
GOING  
ALL THE WAY  
UNDER THE  
EARTH

YOU'VE COME  
THIS FAR,  
THUNDER



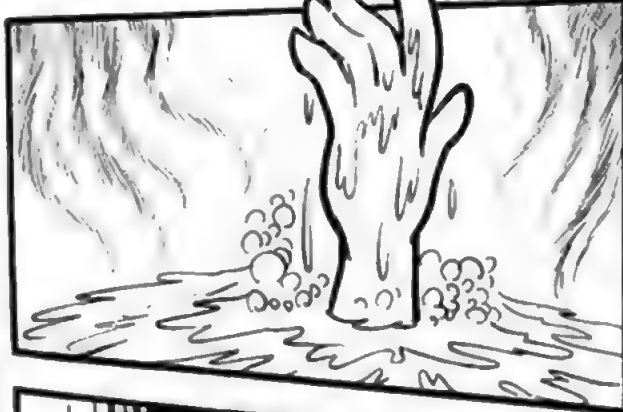
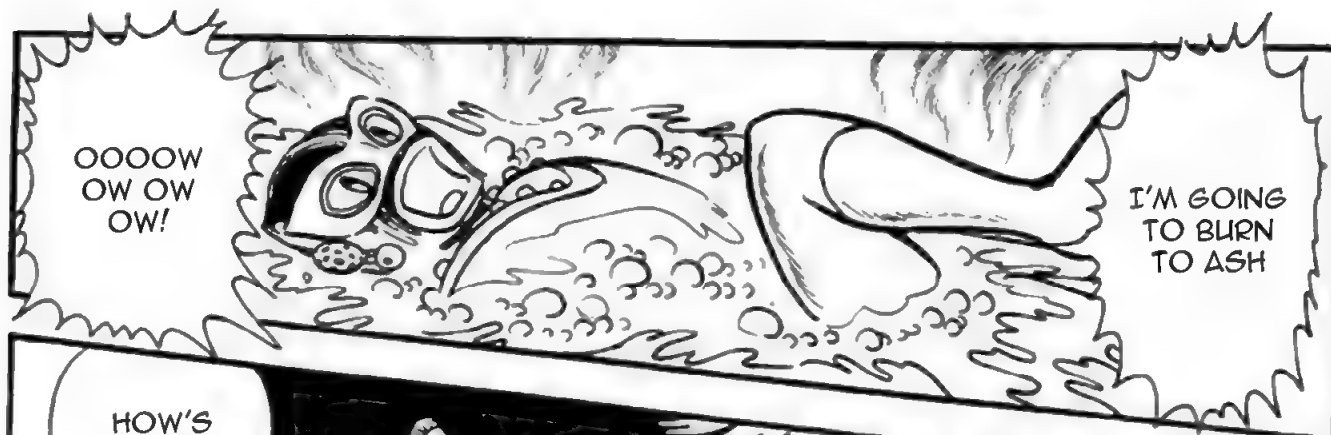
AH  
WHAT  
THE  
HELL

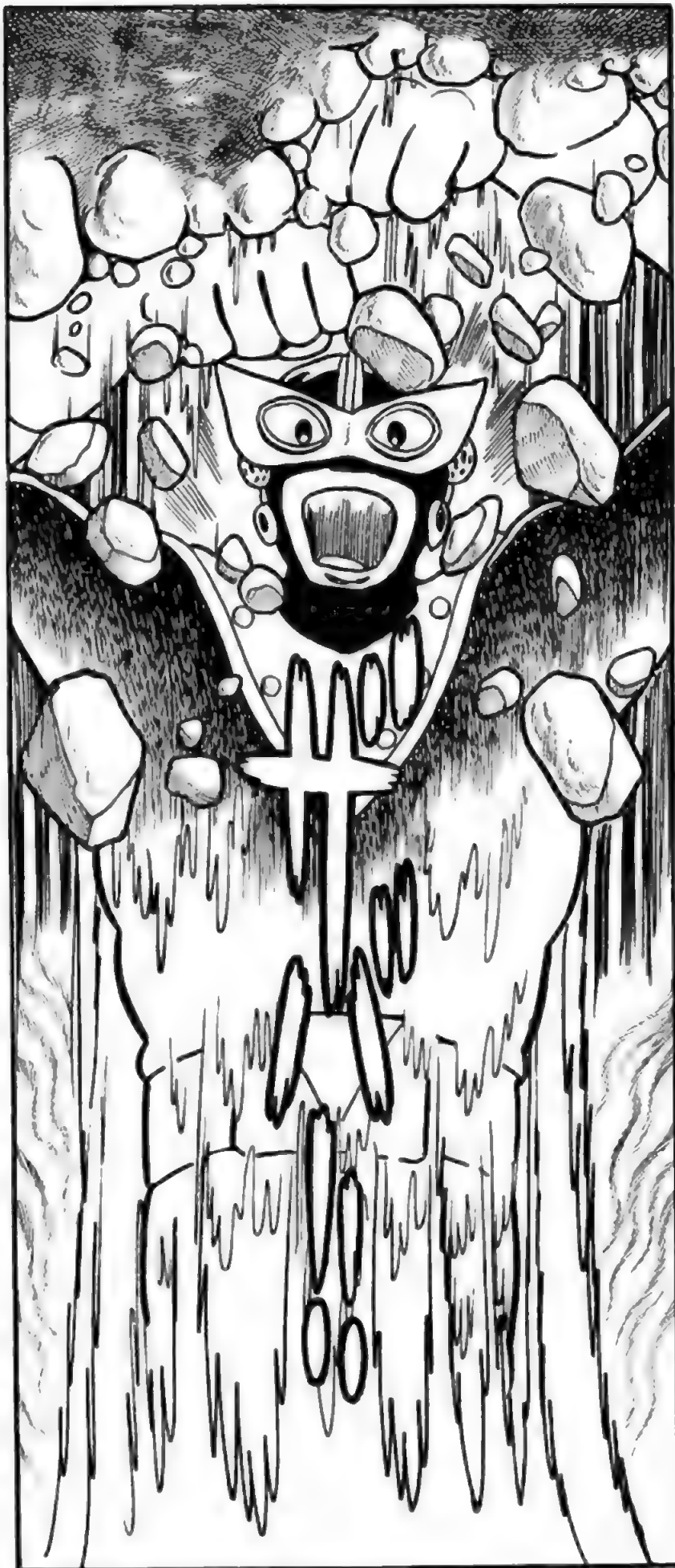
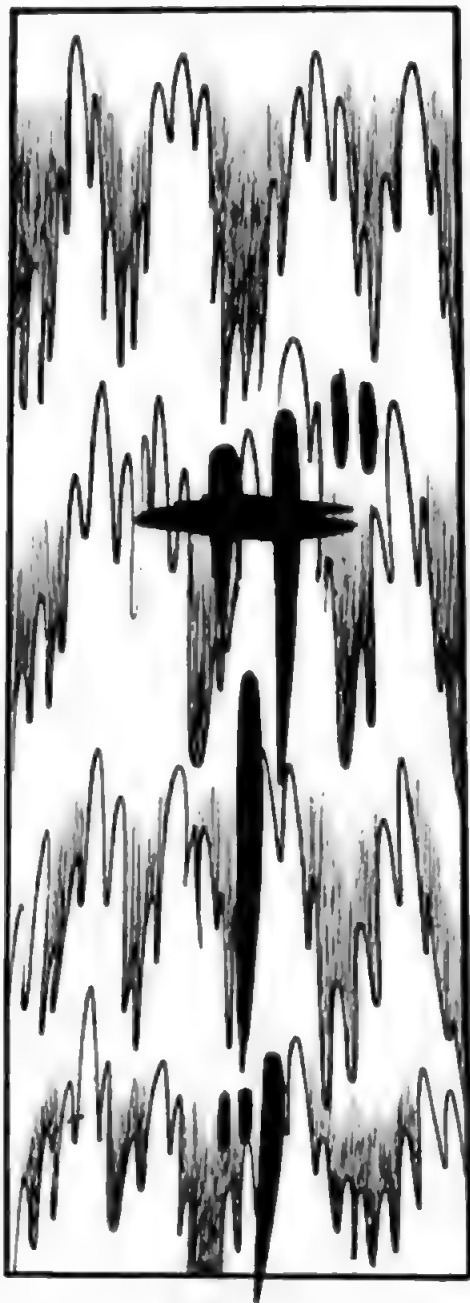


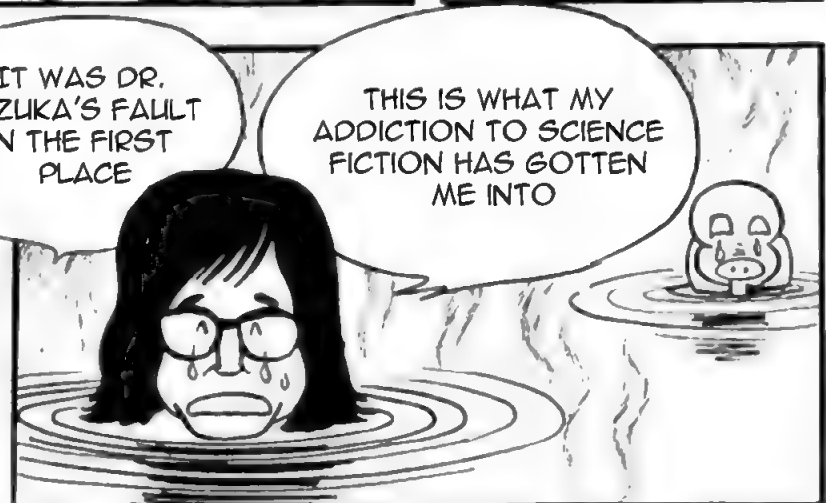
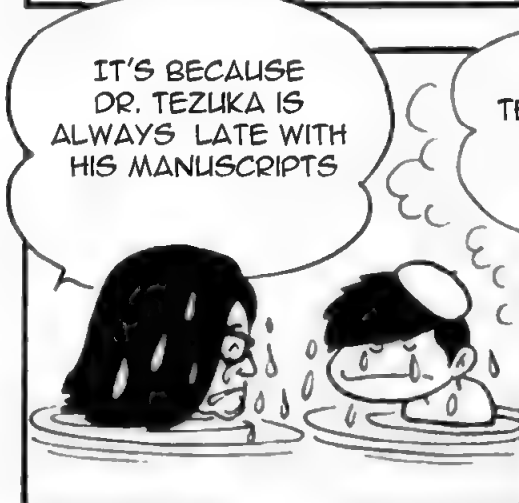
HAHAHA  
COME ON  
THUNDER,  
CAN YOU  
JUMP IN  
HERE?



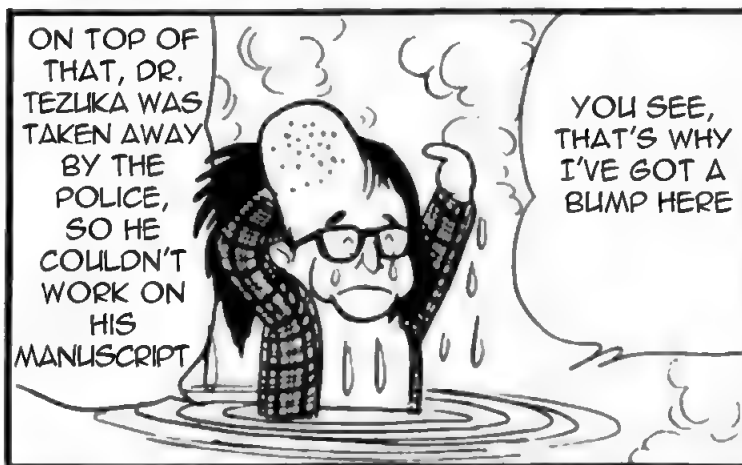
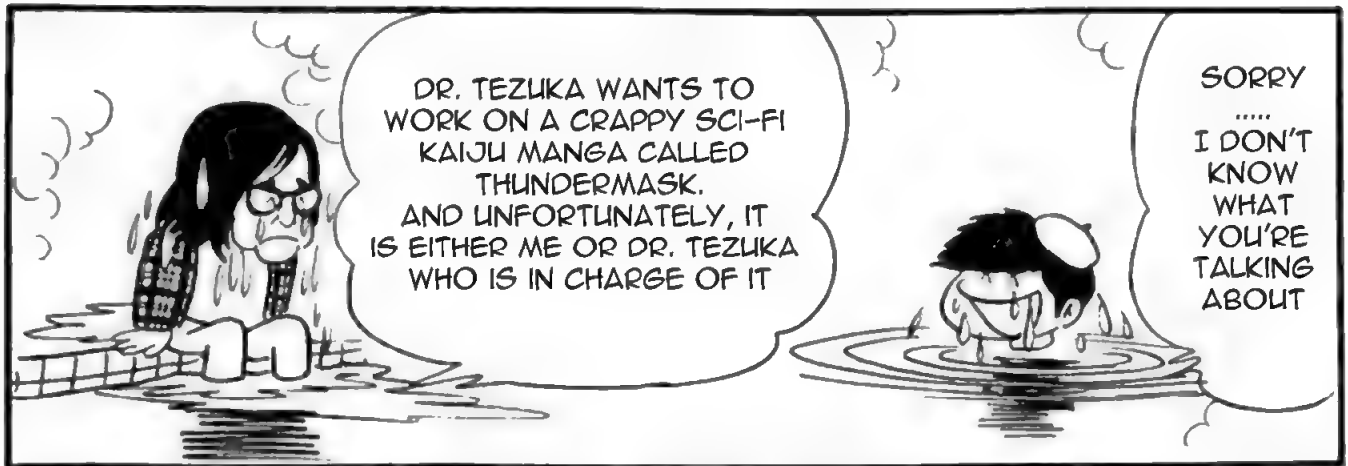
YOU'RE A  
SILICOFORM,  
SO YOU  
CAN ESCAPE  
INTO THE LAVA,  
BUT I CAN'T

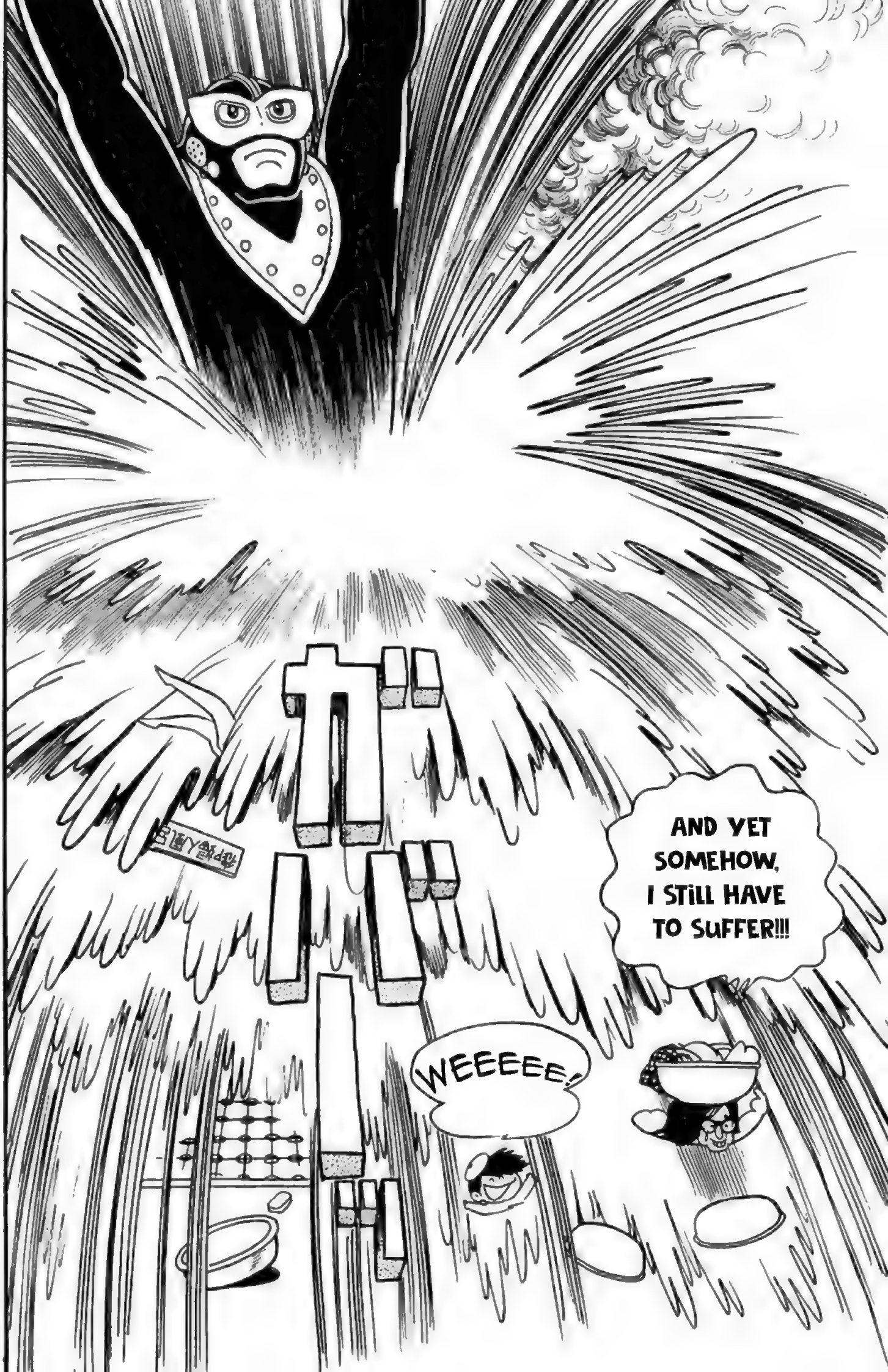






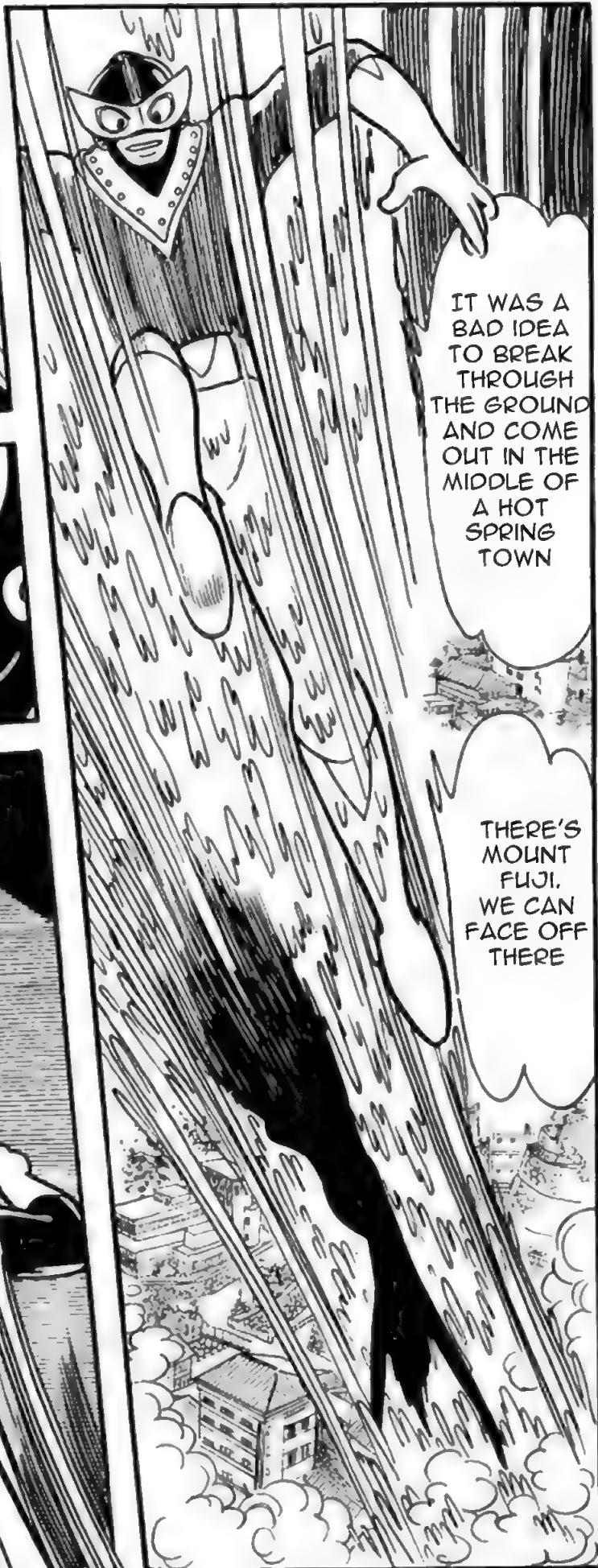






AND YET  
SOMEHOW,  
I STILL HAVE  
TO SUFFER!!!

WEEEEEE!





GO ON!  
IF YOU DON'T  
GET OUT OF  
THAT BODY  
YOU'LL BOTH  
DIE!!



**THUNDER**  
RETURN  
TO HUMAN  
FORM

I'M  
SORRY  
I DIDN'T  
MAKE IT  
...



HA HA  
HA HA HA  
HA AAAA  
HA HA!



I'VE BEEN  
DOING MY  
CALCULATIONS,  
AND I KNOW  
THAT THE  
TIME LIMIT ON  
BODY YOU'RE  
USING IS ABOUT  
TO EXPIRE

IF YOU'RE NOT  
OUT OF THAT  
BODY IN TEN  
MINUTES, THAT'S  
THE LAST OF IT,  
RIGHT?  
YOUR MOLECULES  
AND THE TISSUE  
OF THE  
EARTHLY BODY... HE'S  
GOING TO  
REJECT IT  
AND EXPLODE,  
AREN'T YOU?

HE HE  
I KNOW  
ALL ABOUT  
IT

DAMN IT!



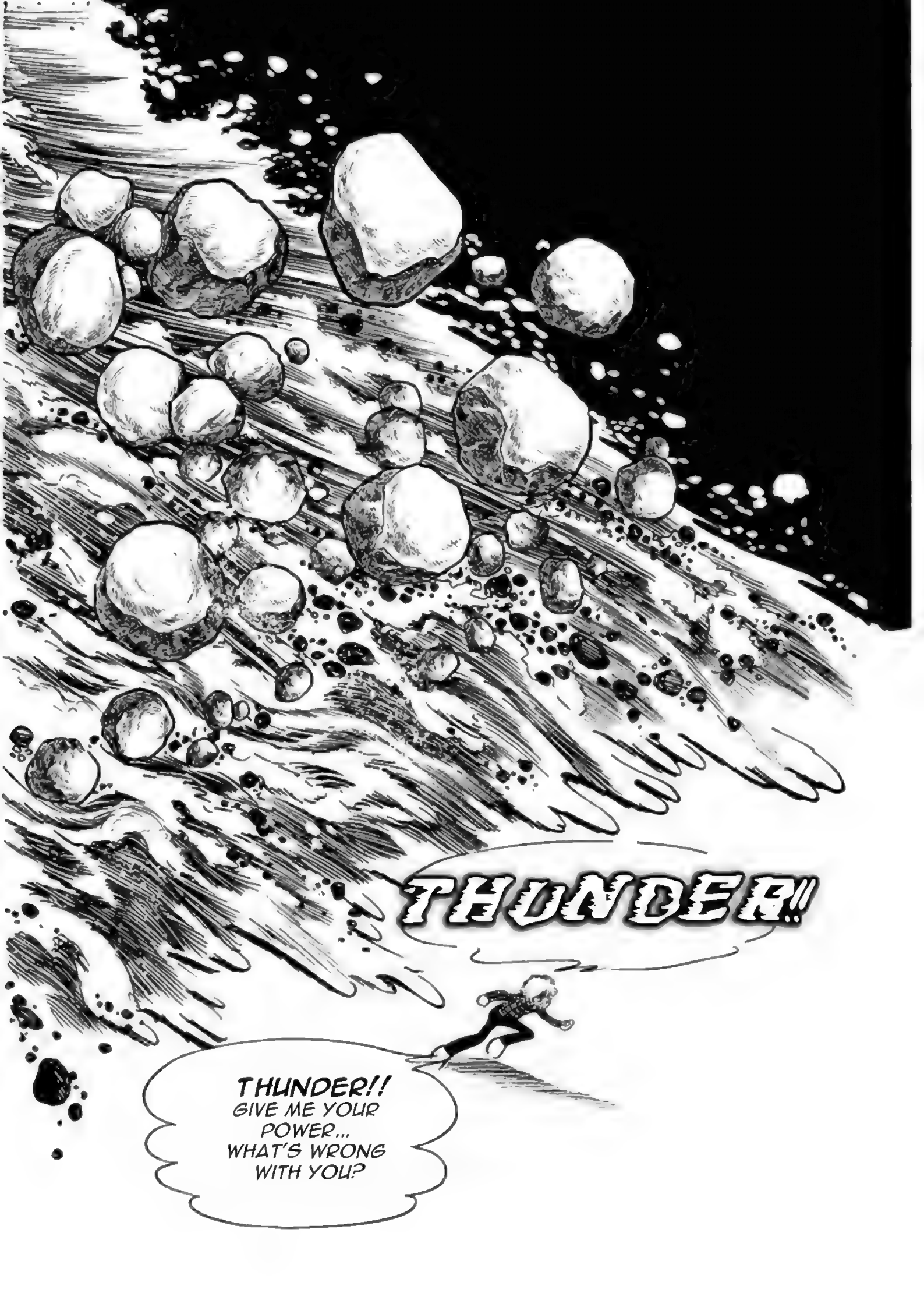


IT DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHERE YOU  
ARE, YOUR  
FATE IS  
STILL SEALED



WHO ARE  
YOU...  
AND  
WHERE  
AM I?



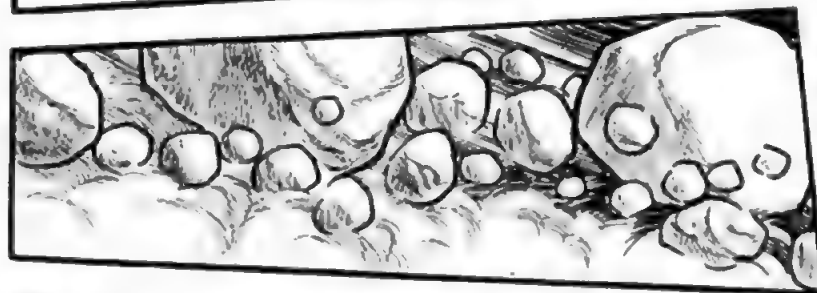


**THUNDER!!**

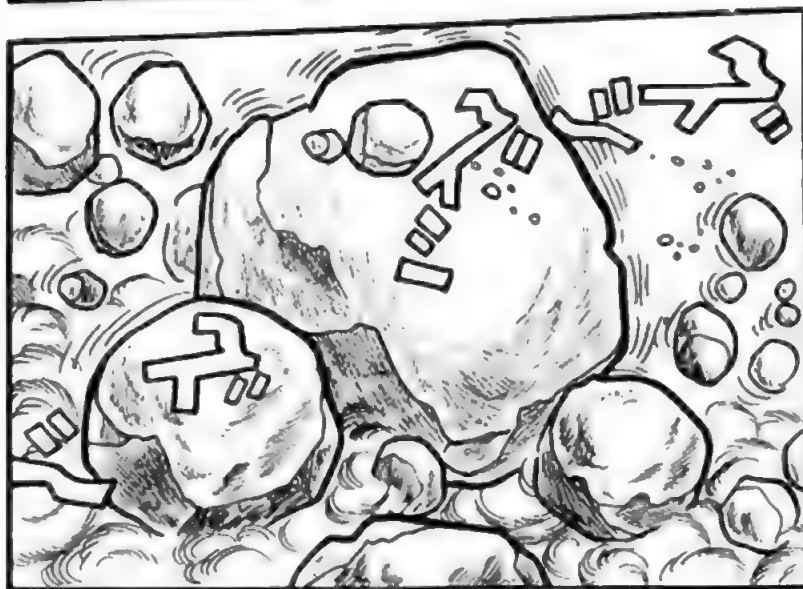
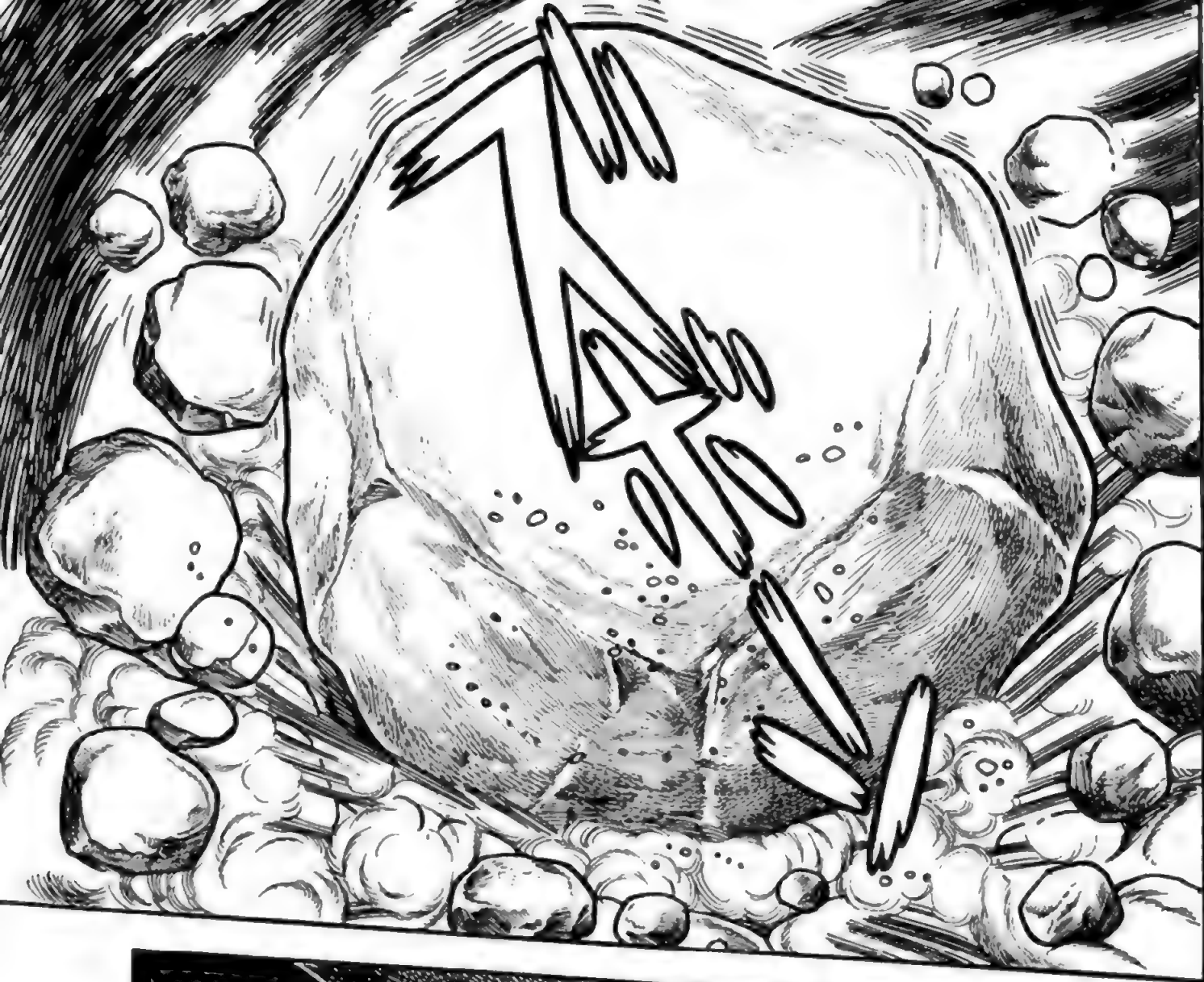
**THUNDER!!**  
GIVE ME YOUR  
POWER...  
WHAT'S WRONG  
WITH YOU?

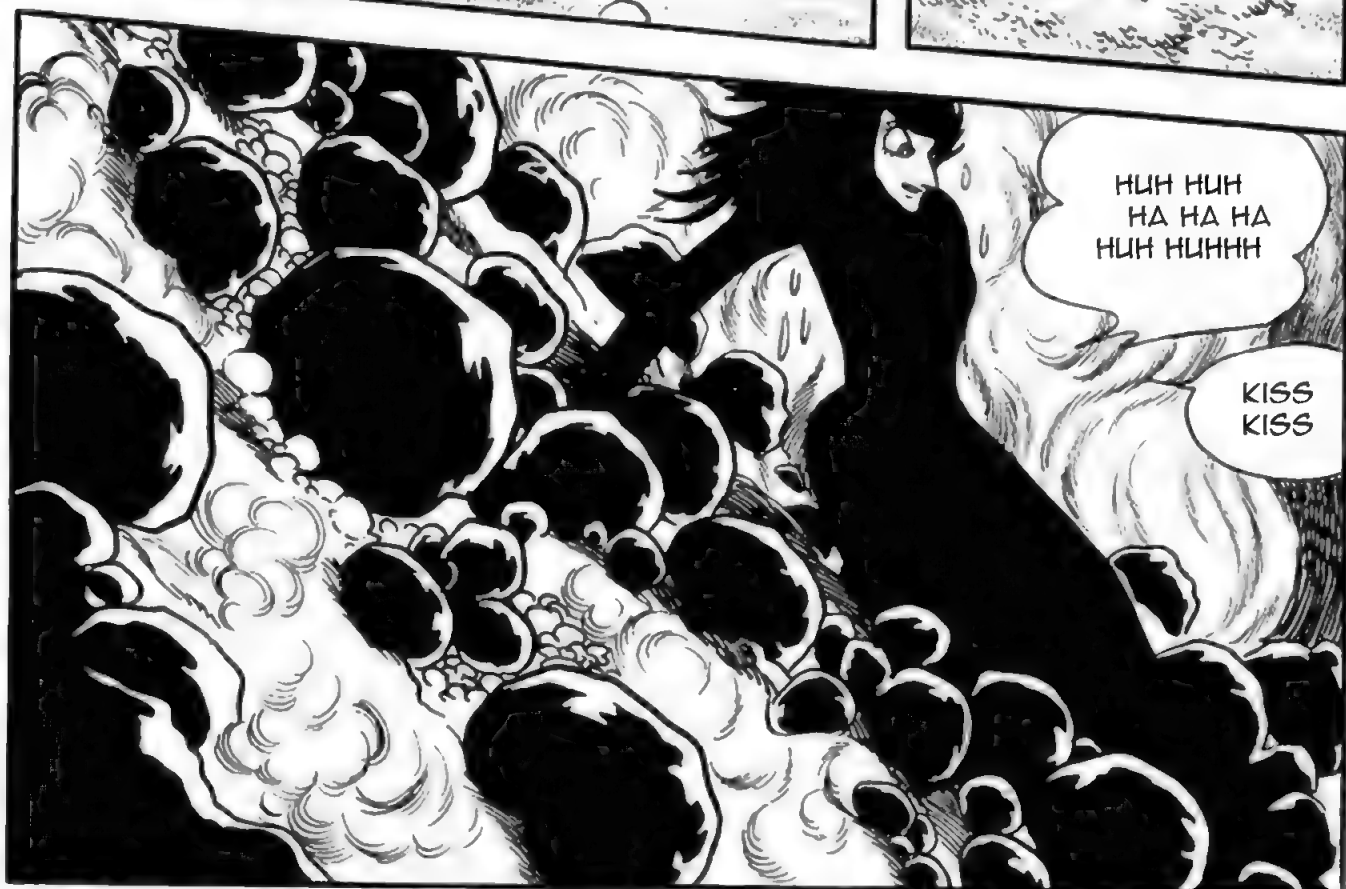
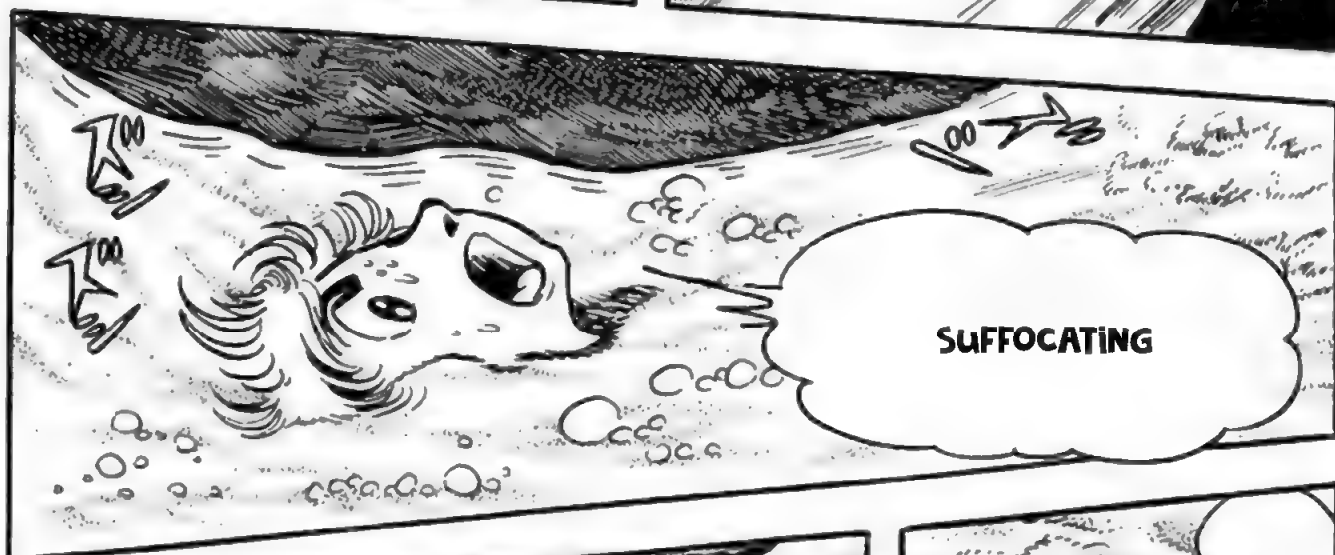
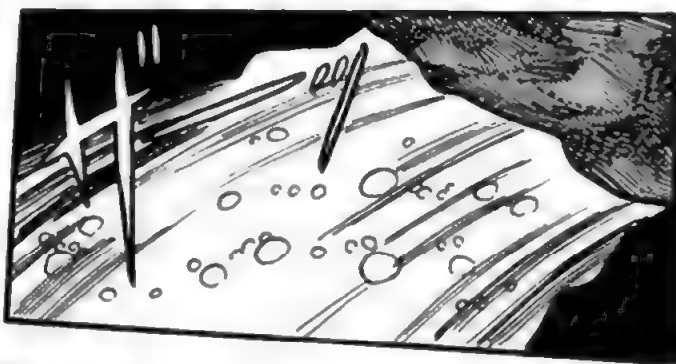















I HAVE  
ARRIVED ON  
THIS PLANET  
FROM THE  
INFINITE DEPTHS  
OF SPACE,  
AND I'VE  
DECIDED TO  
MAKE IT MY  
HOME!

ALL  
LIFE ON  
EARTH,  
HEAR ME!  
I AM  
DEKANDER

**WAHHH**  
**HA HA**  
**HA**  
**HA HA**  
**HAAAAA**

THAT  
WILL  
CHANGE!

CREATURES  
OF THE EARTH  
BREATHE  
OXYGEN,  
DRINK WATER,  
AND EAT  
ORGANIC  
MATTER!

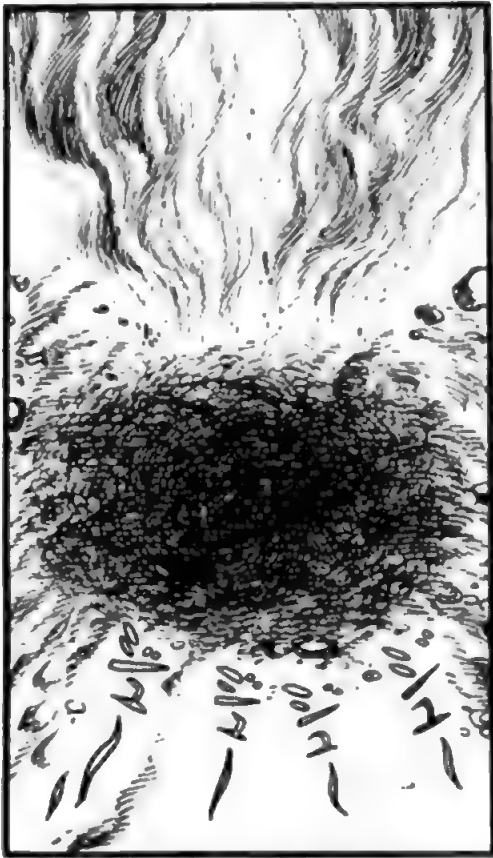
I BREATHE THE  
FUMES, DRINK  
THE METHANE,  
AND EAT  
AMMONIA

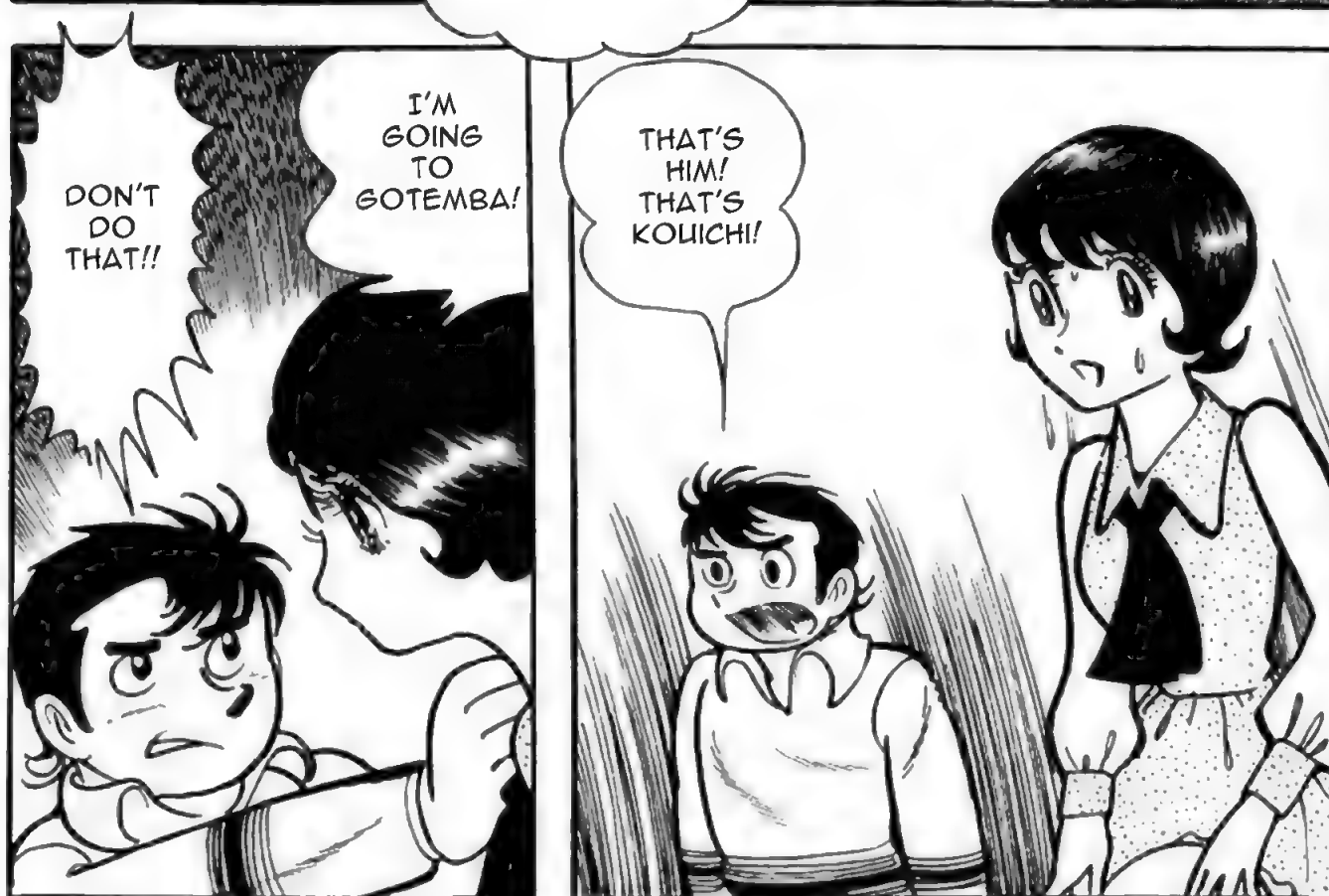
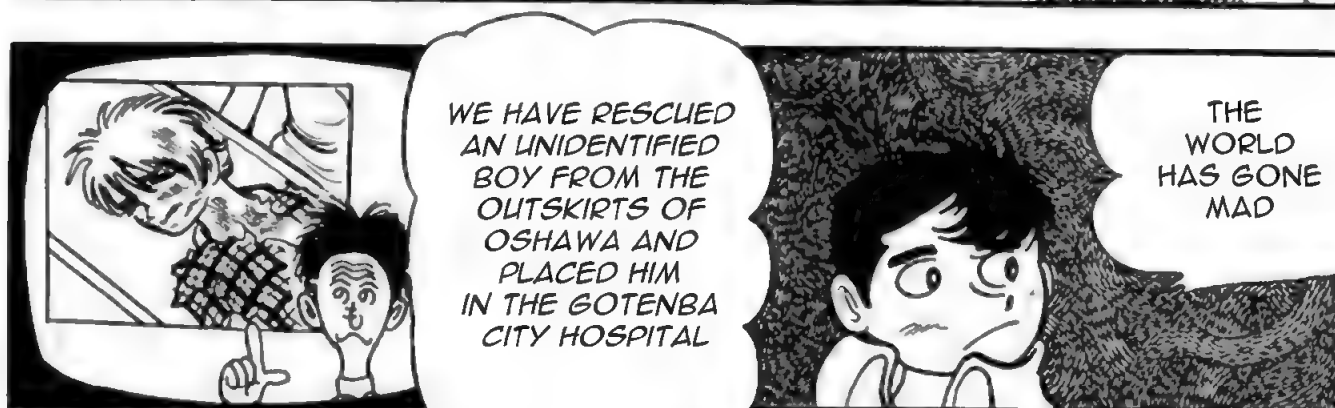
THIS BODY  
IS BORN  
FROM THE  
ROCKS OF  
THIS WORLD

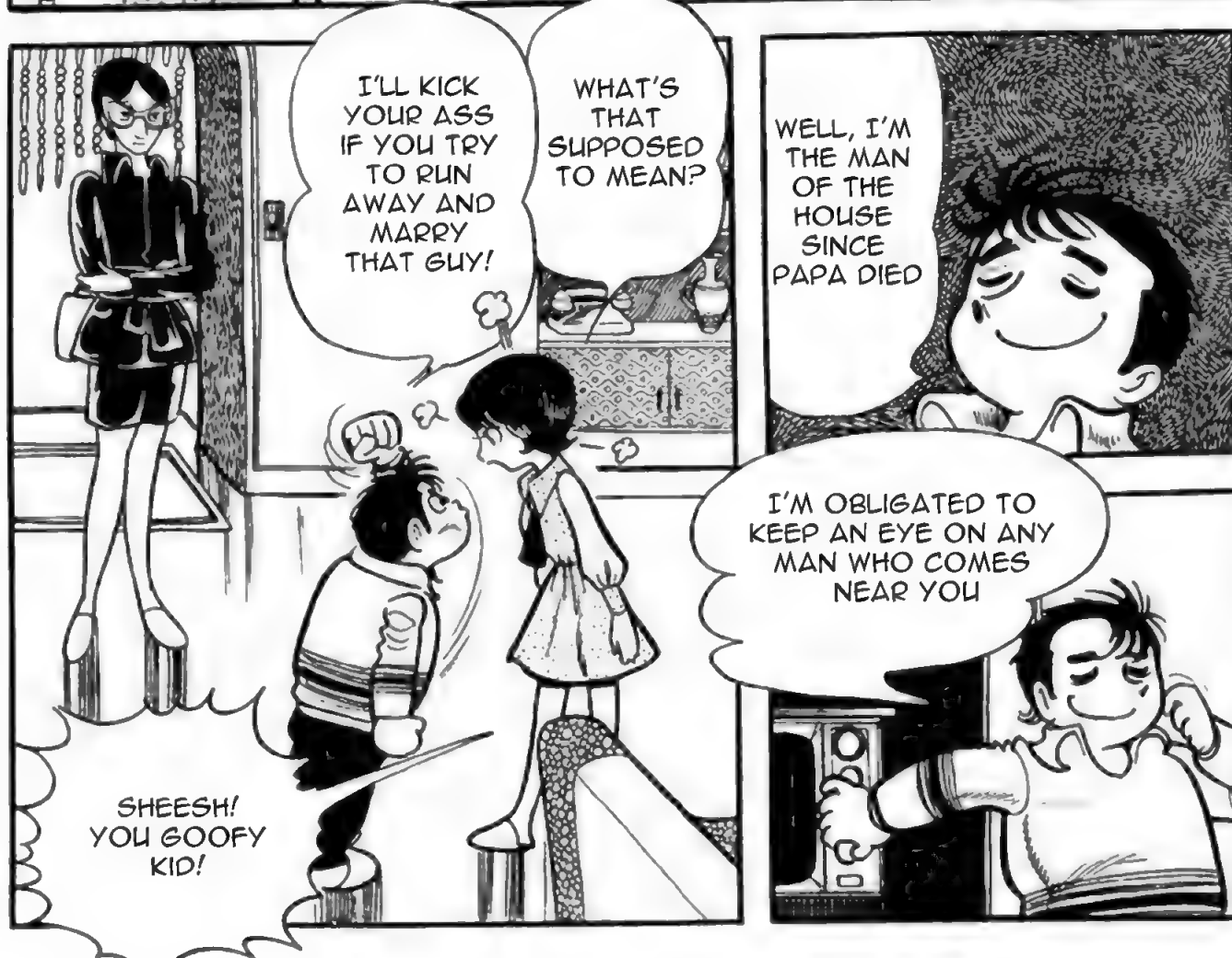


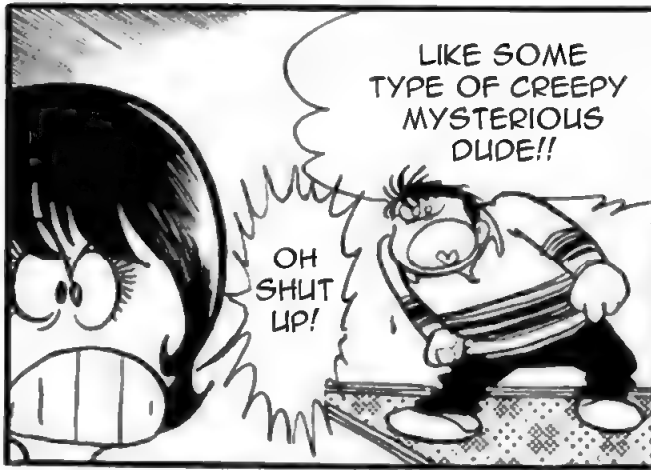




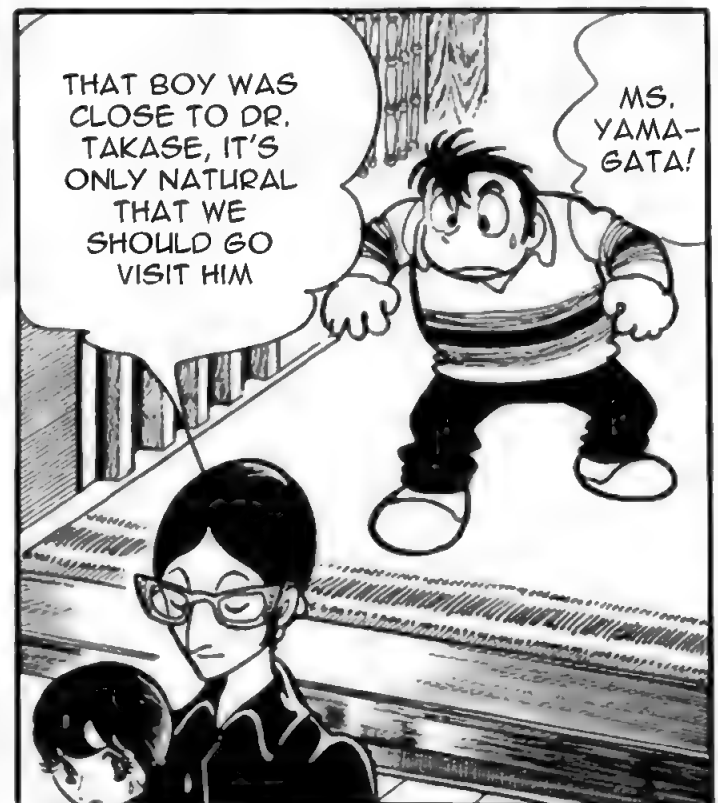
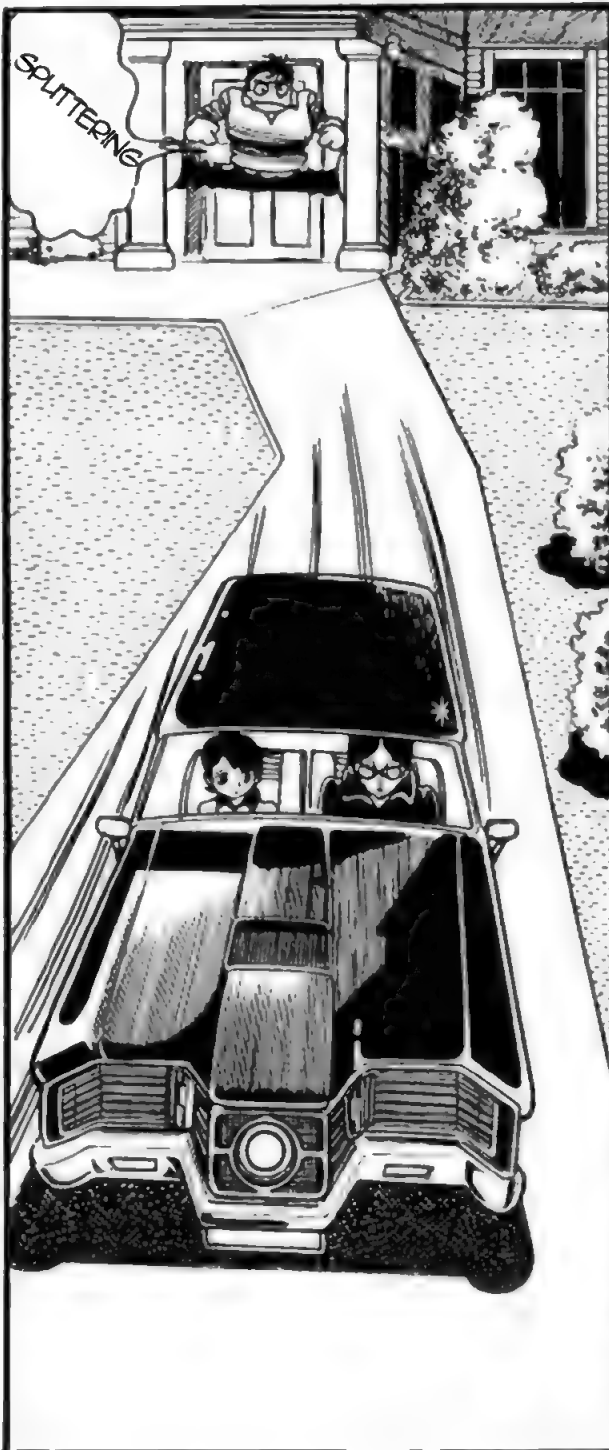


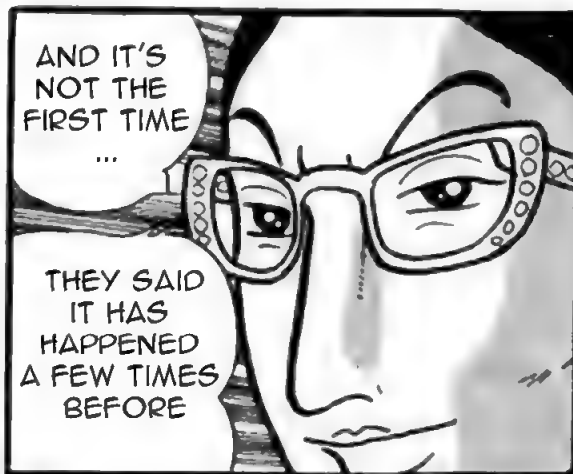






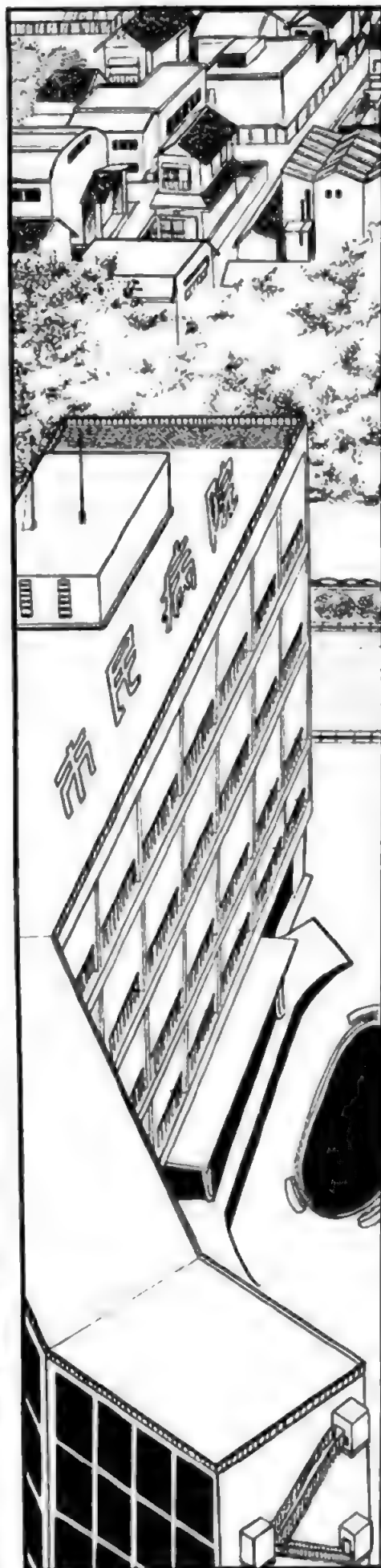
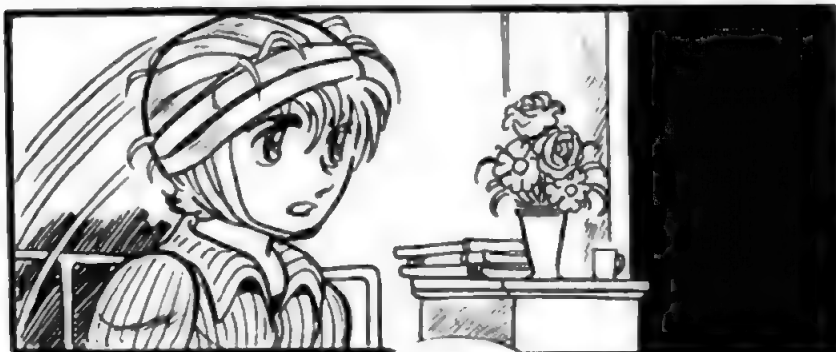




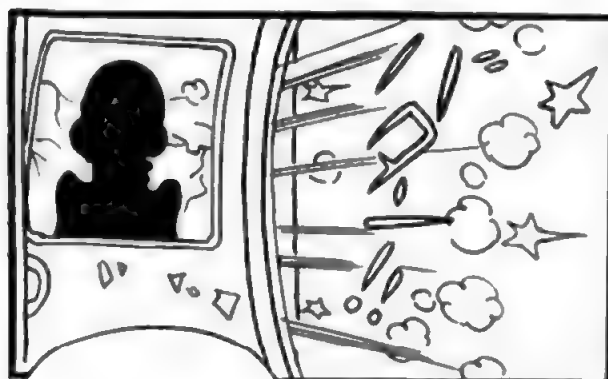
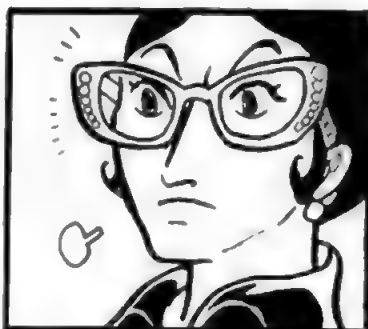
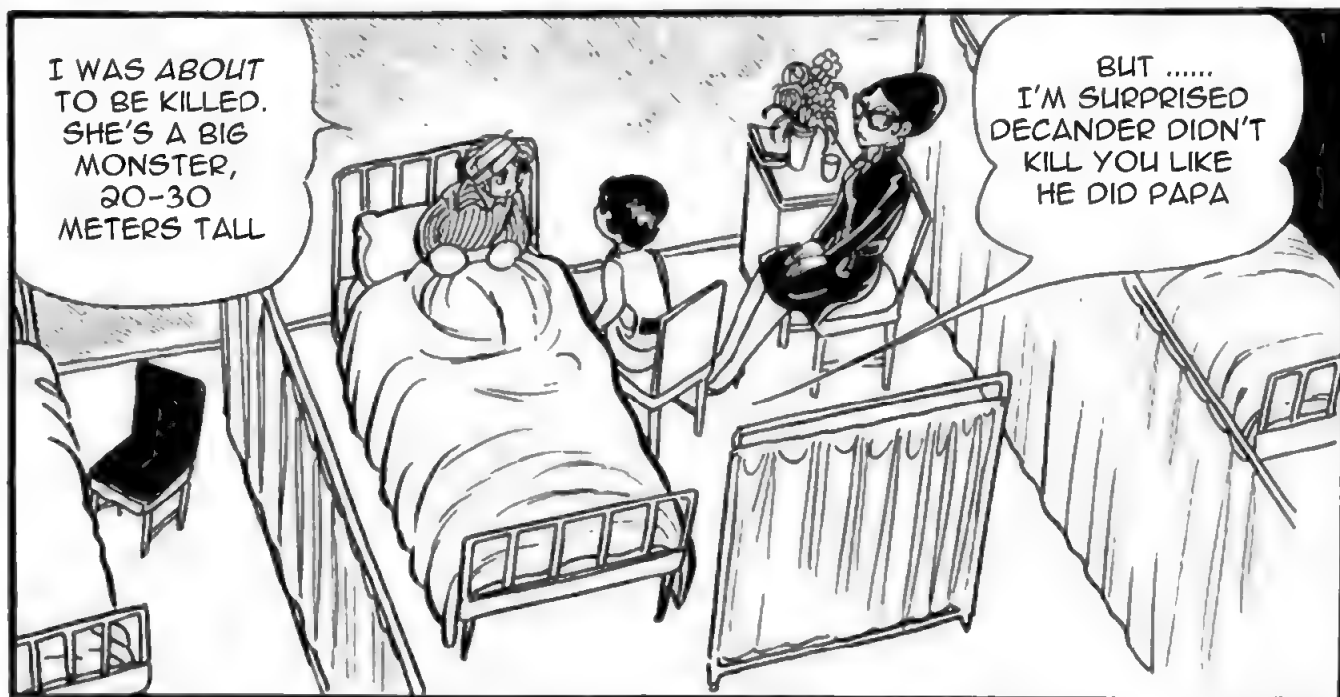


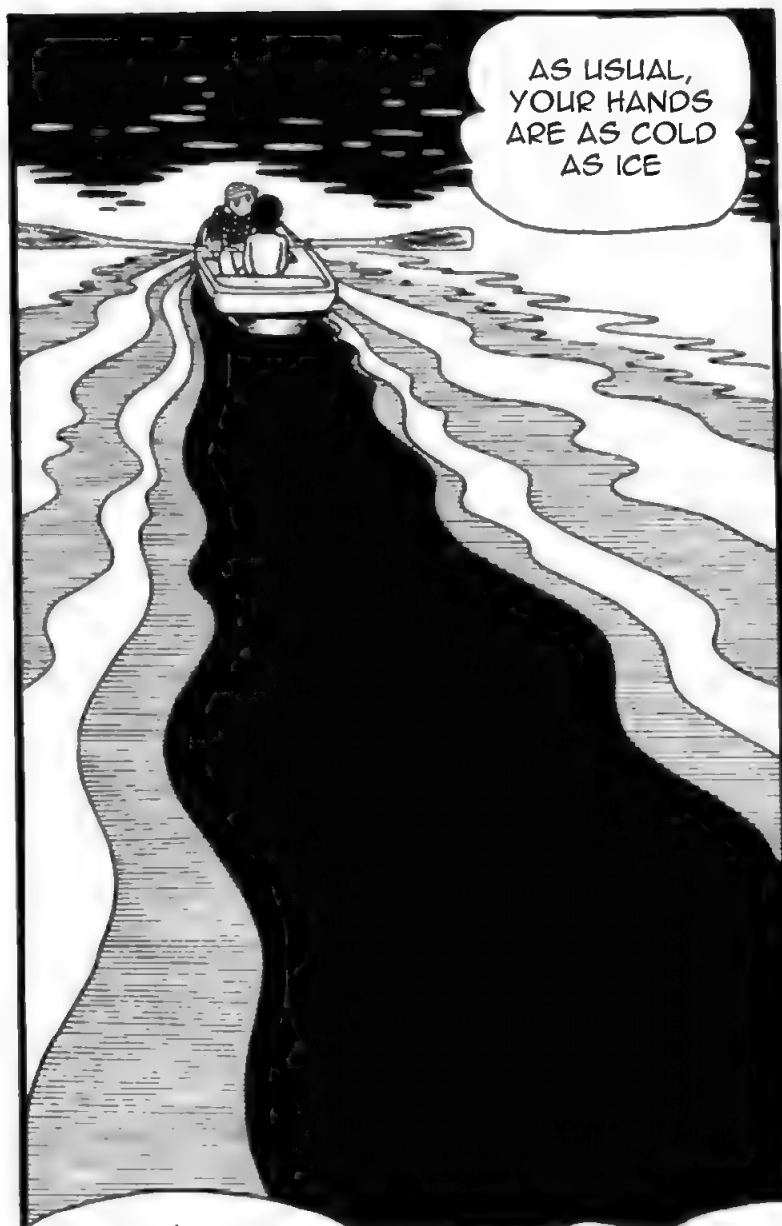
## 第4章

OMICRON









AS USUAL,  
YOUR HANDS  
ARE AS COLD  
AS ICE



ALL RIGHT.  
THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
I'D REALLY  
LIKE YOU  
TO HEAR  
IN PRIVATE

I'VE  
ONLY GOT  
A FEW DAYS  
LEFT TO LIVE  
ANYWAY

HEH

IF YOU PUSH  
YOURSELF TOO  
HARD, YOU'LL  
RUIN YOUR  
BODY

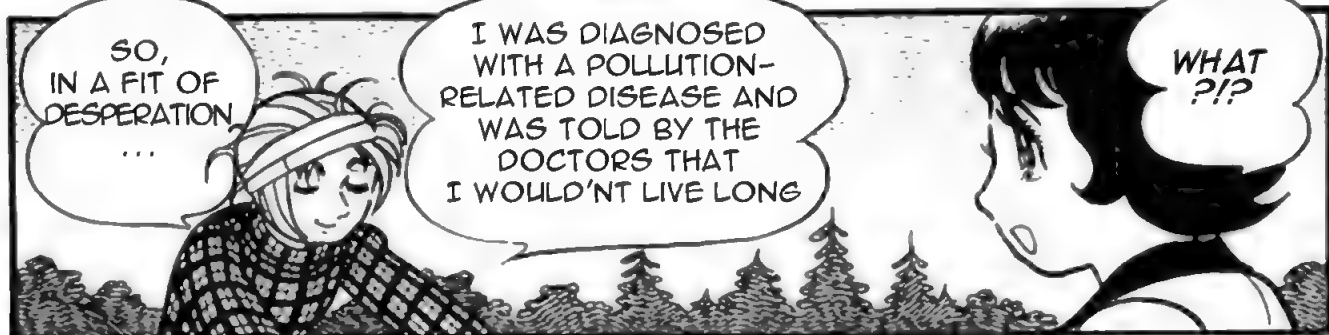
ARE  
YOU SURE  
YOU'RE  
OKAY?

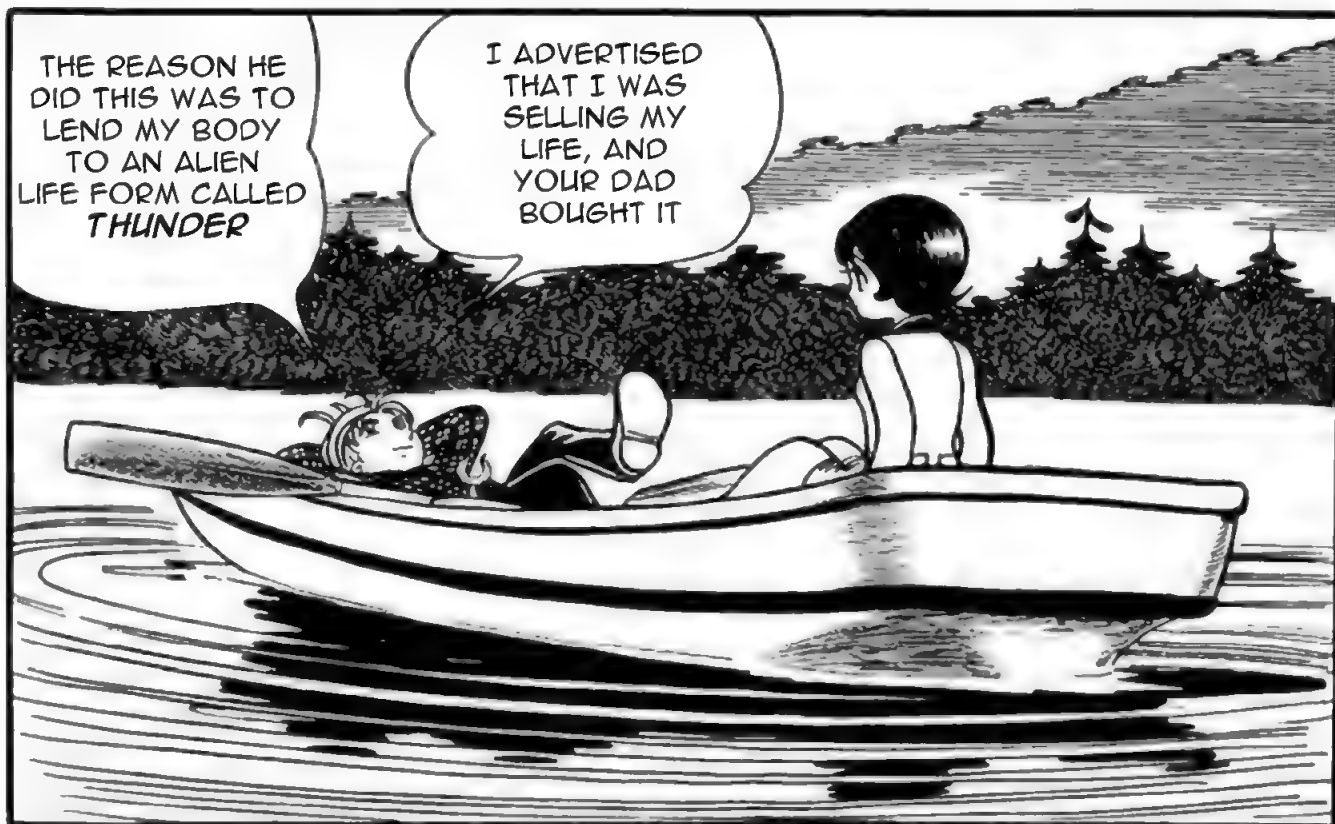


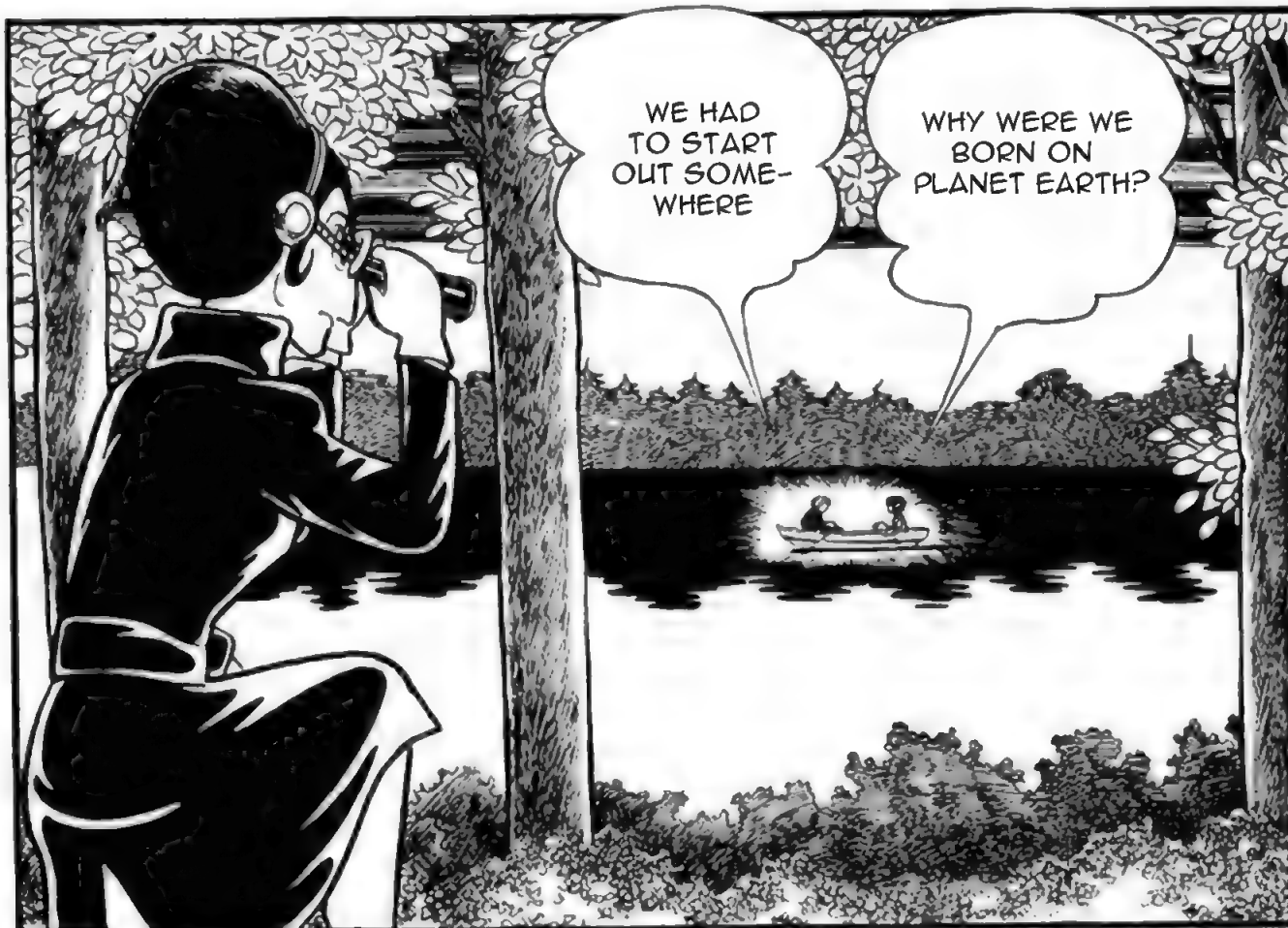
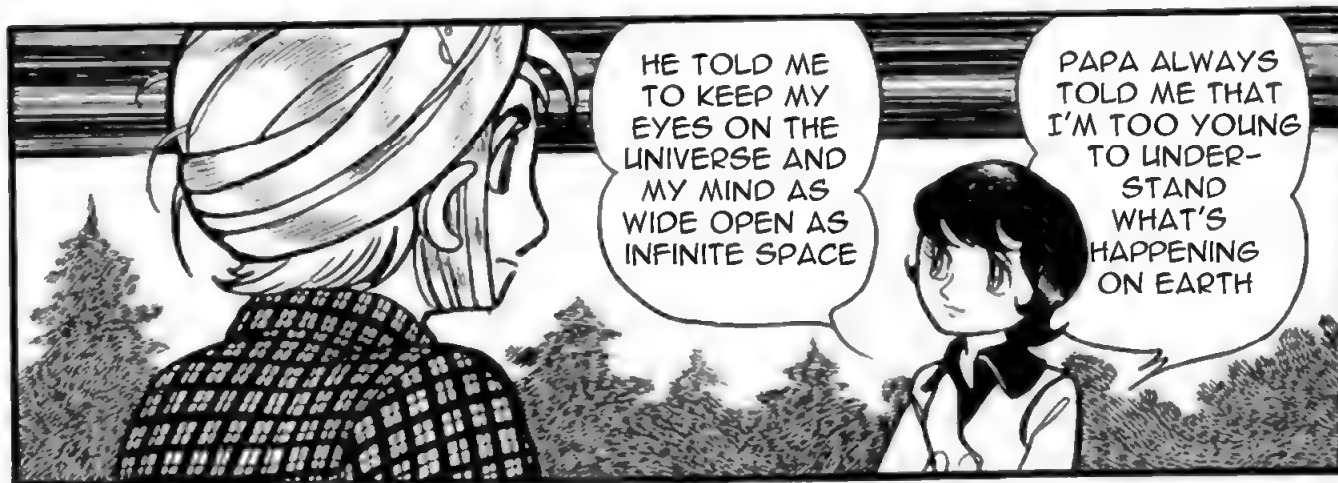
SO,  
IN A FIT OF  
DESPERATION  
...

I WAS DIAGNOSED  
WITH A POLLUTION-  
RELATED DISEASE AND  
WAS TOLD BY THE  
DOCTORS THAT  
I WOULDN'T LIVE LONG

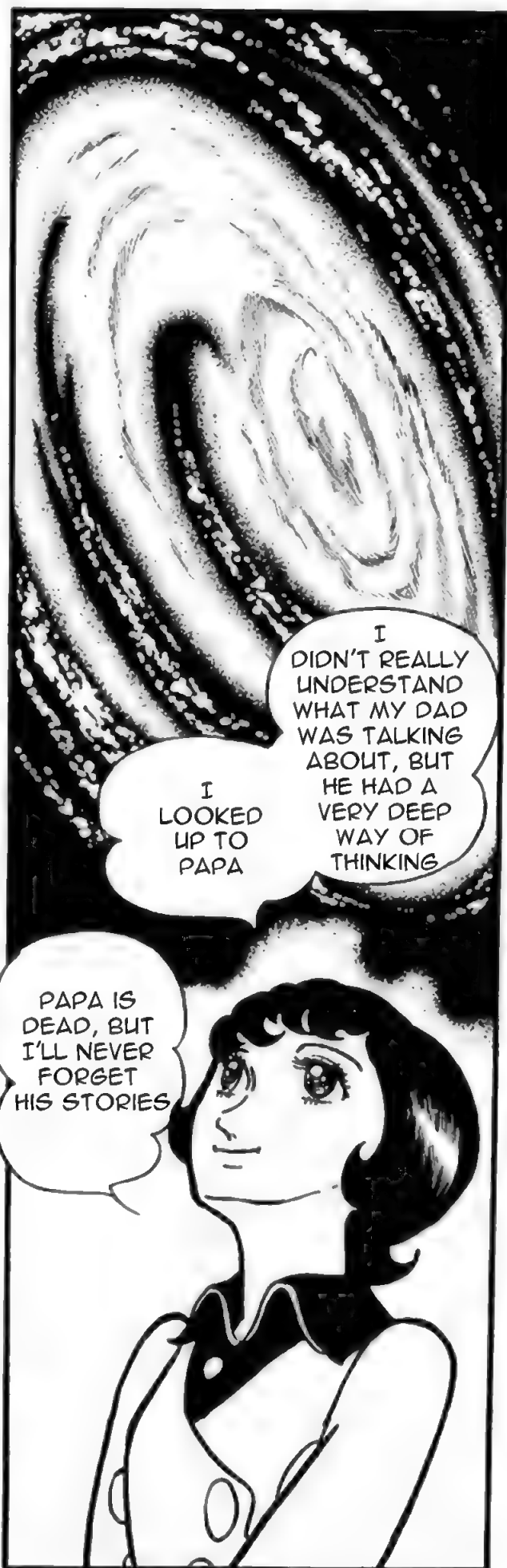
WHAT  
?!



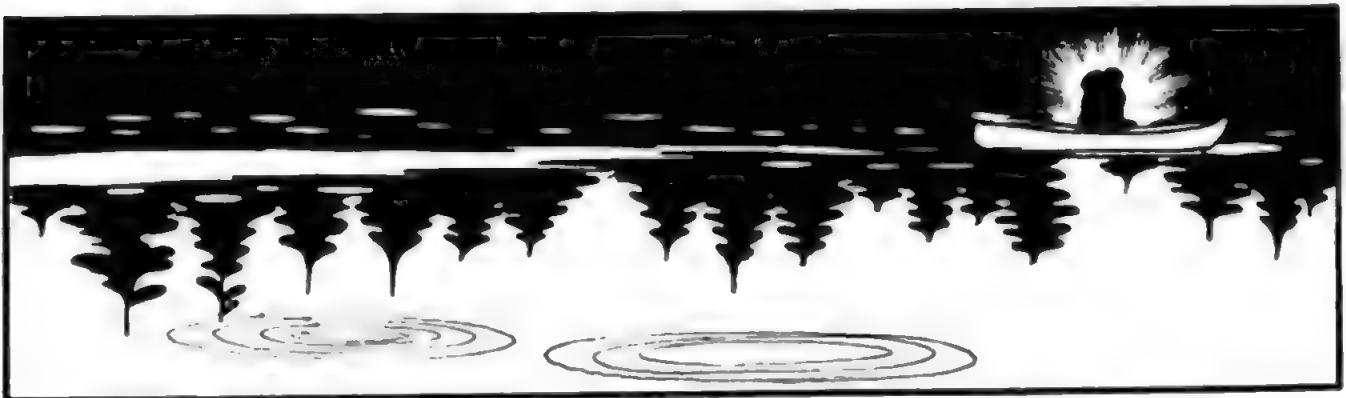
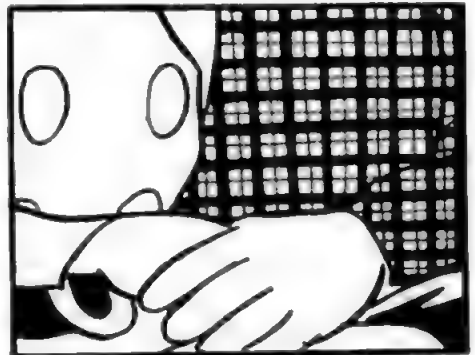
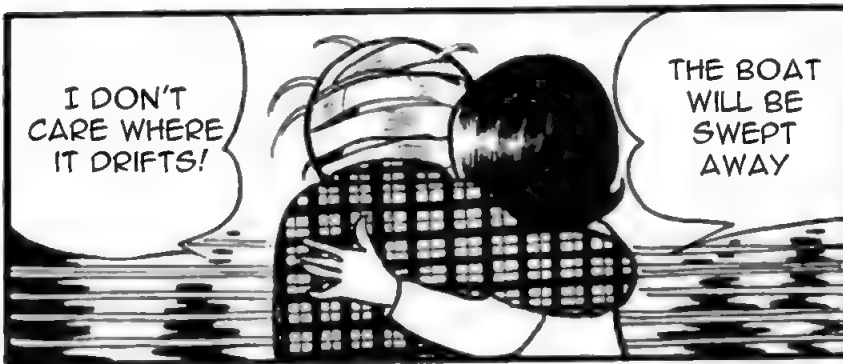
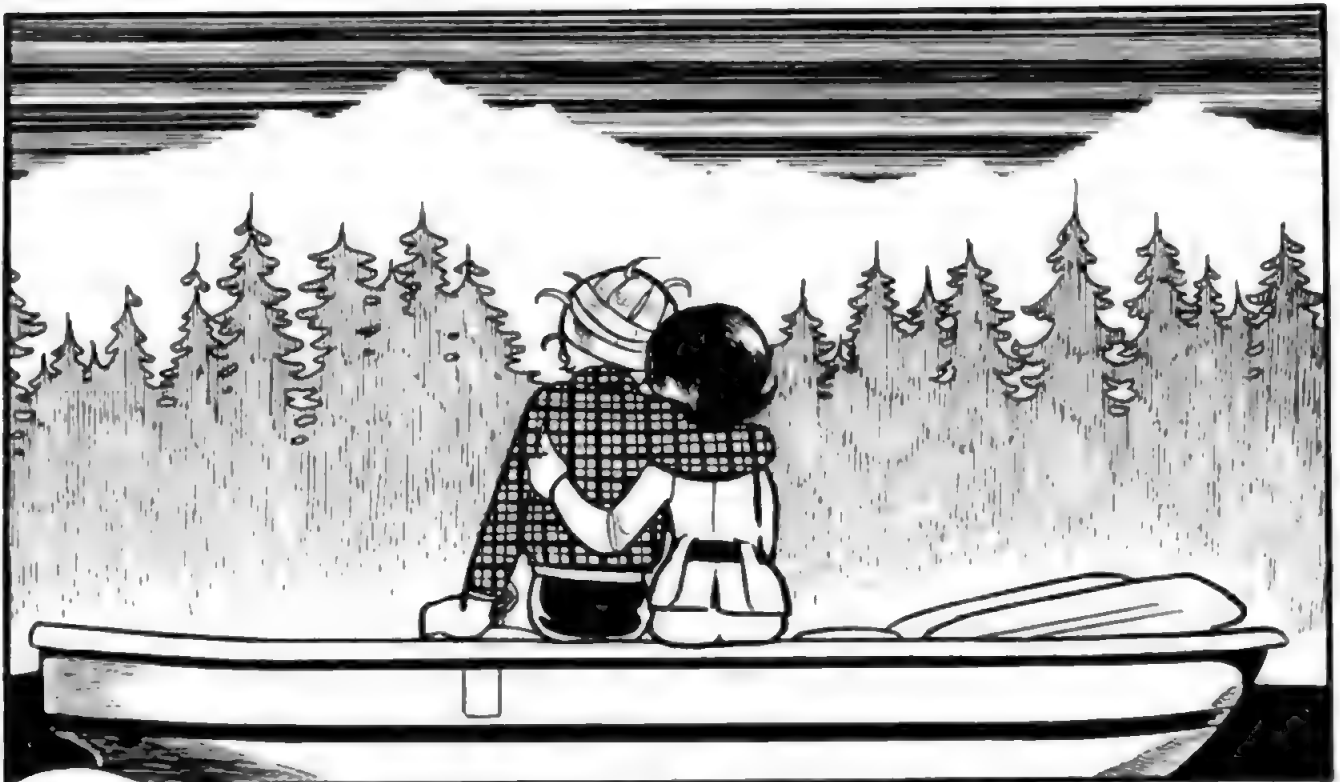






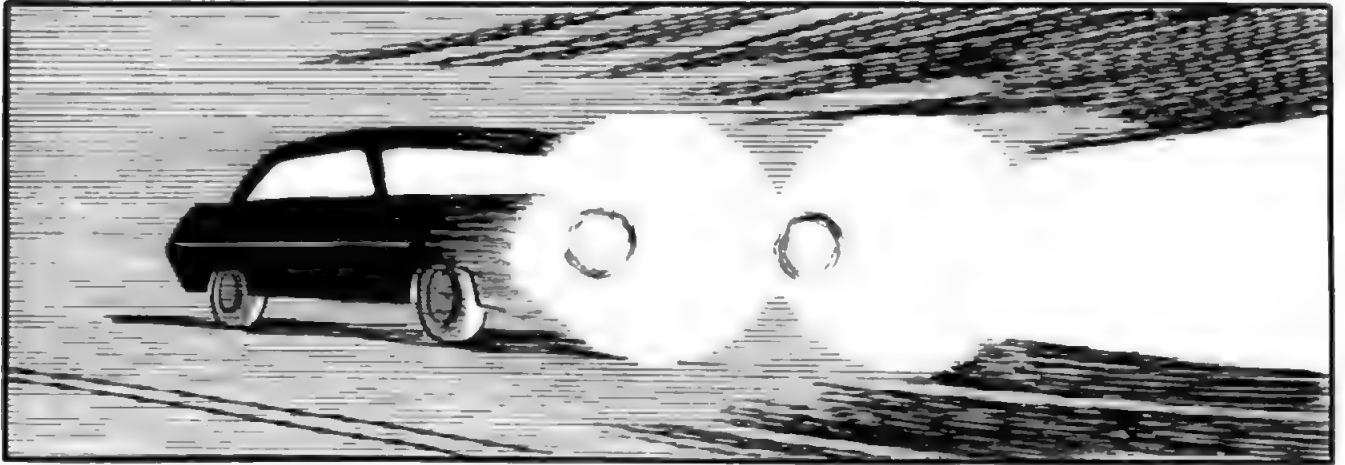


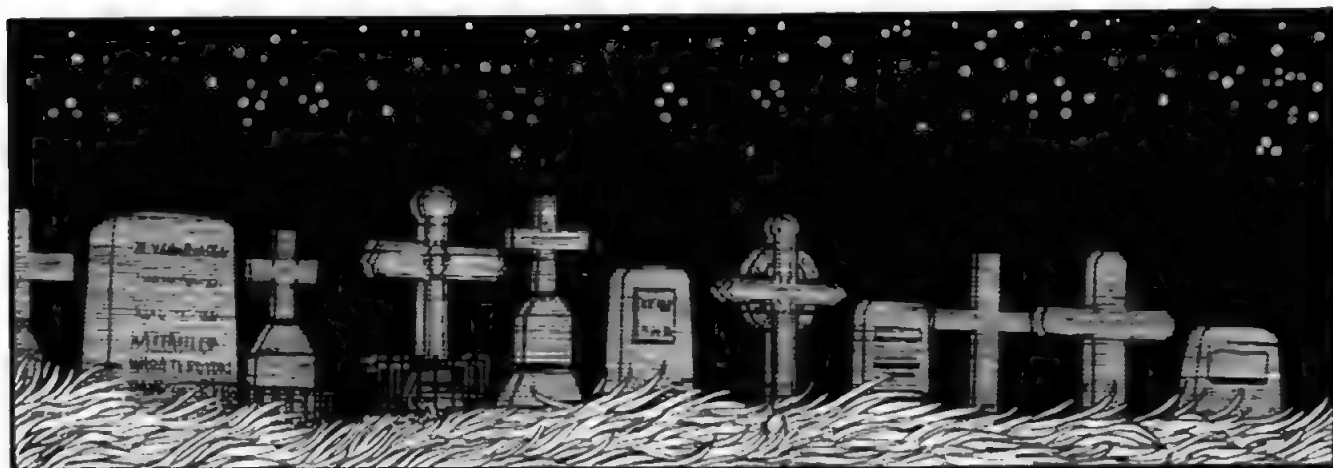
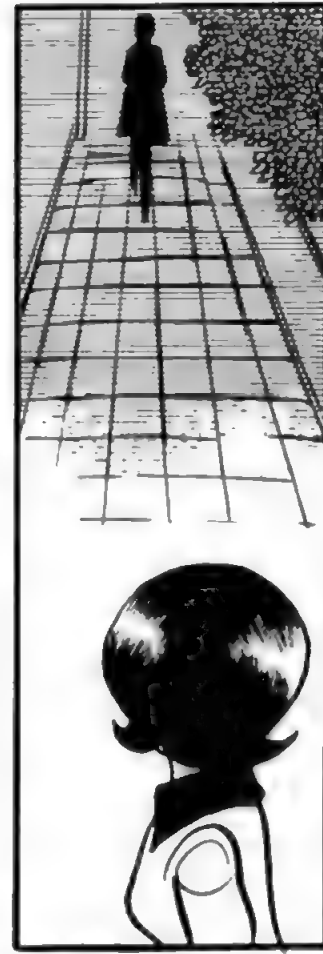
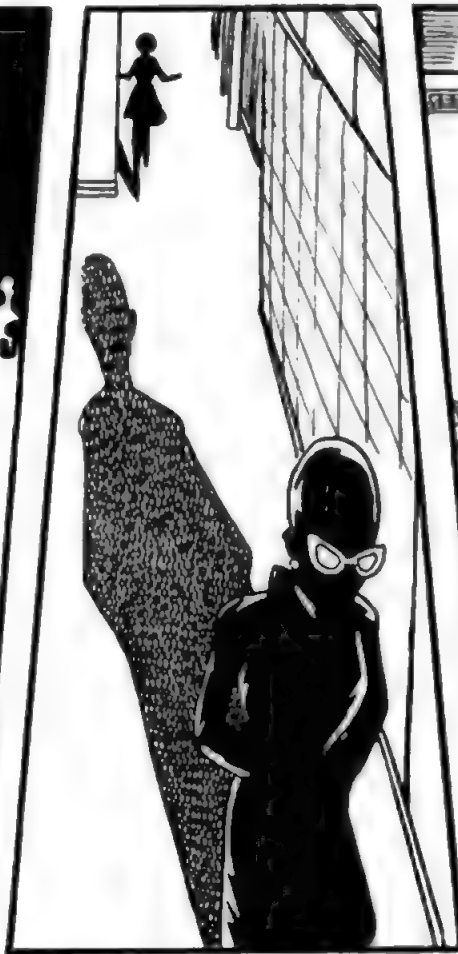
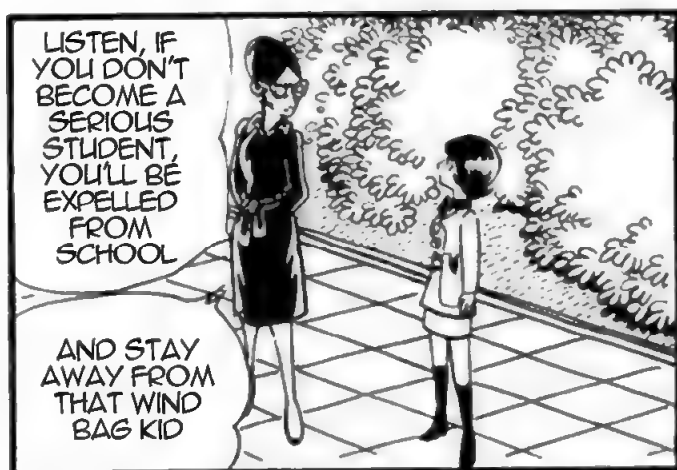


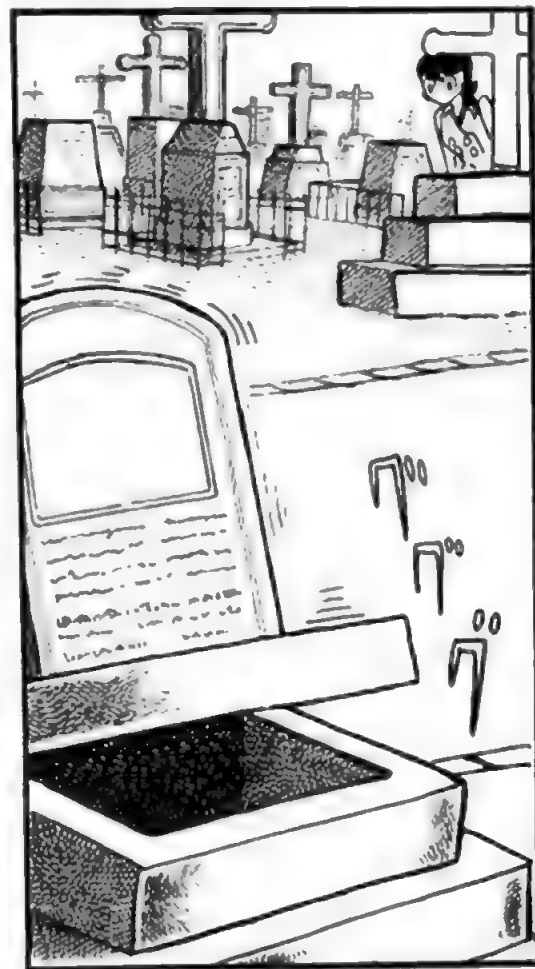
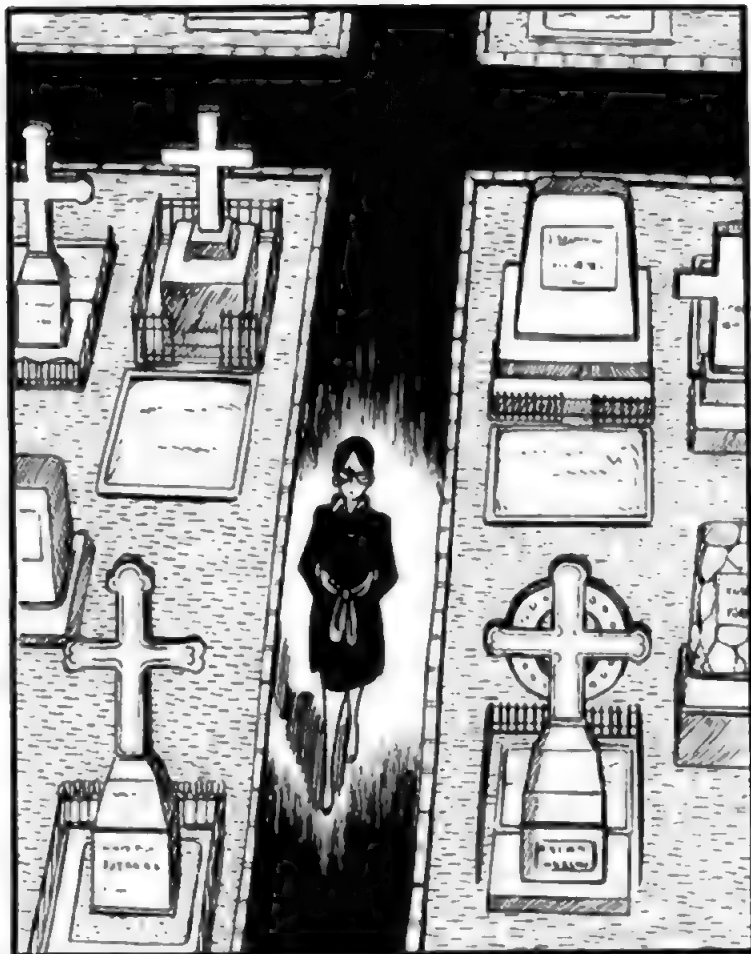


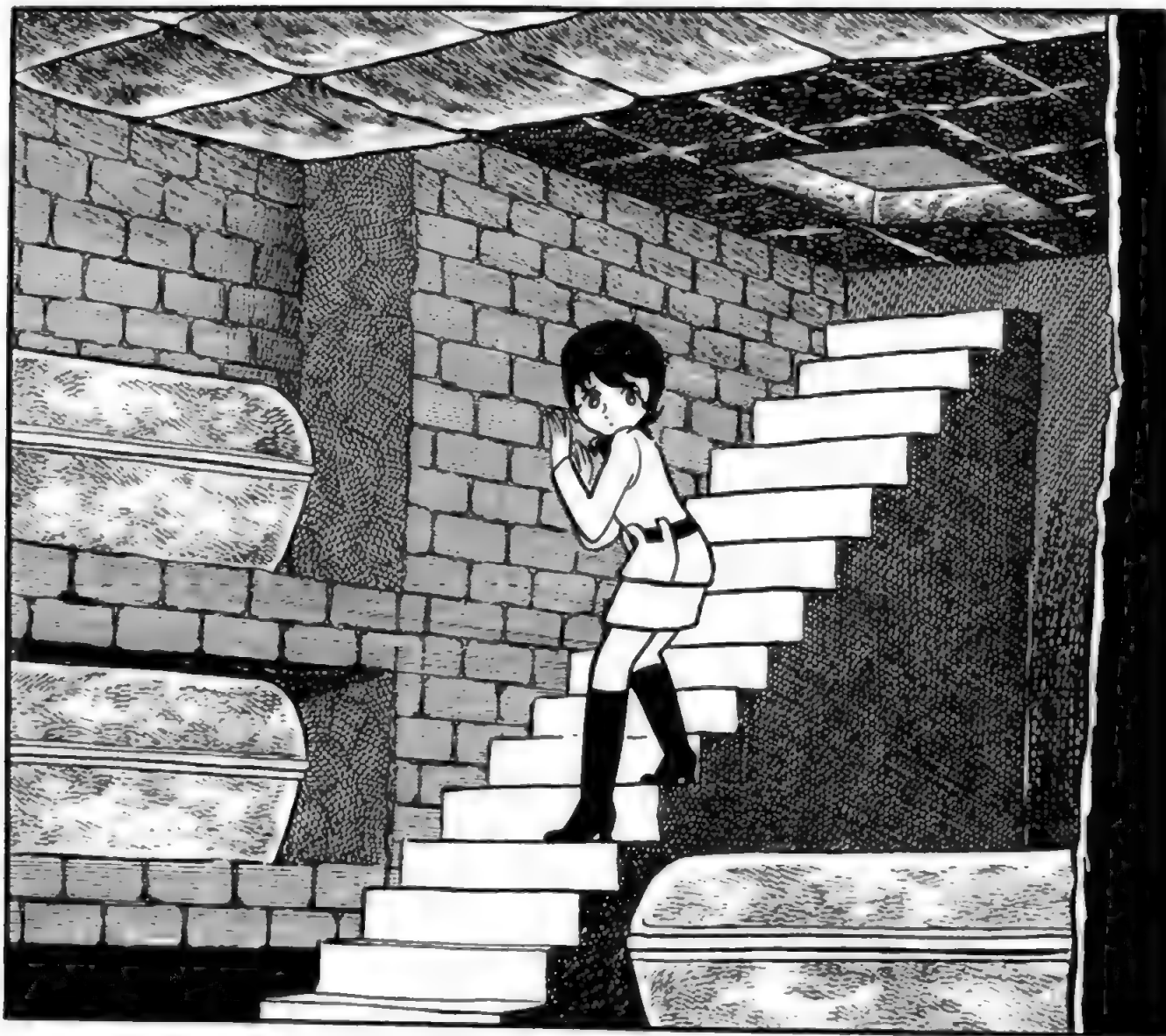




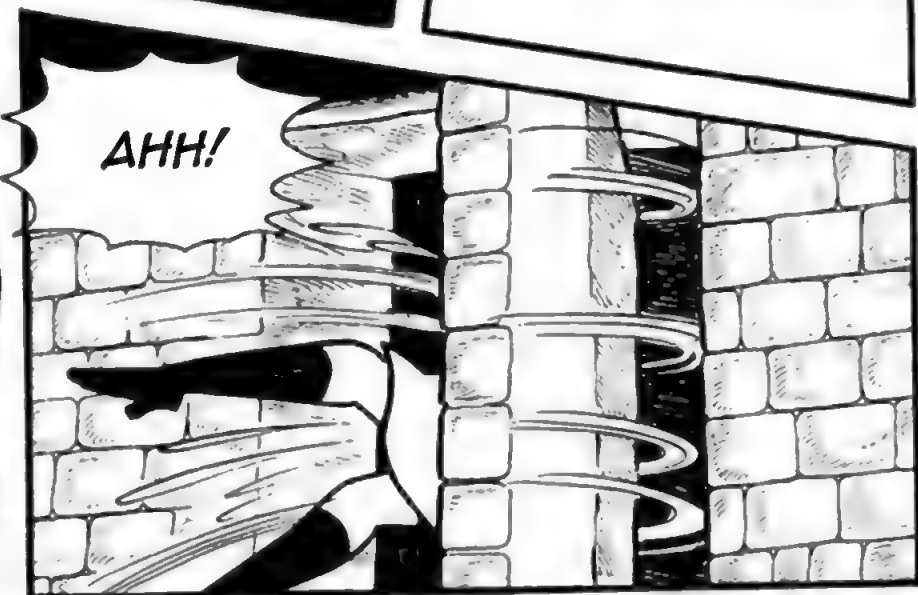
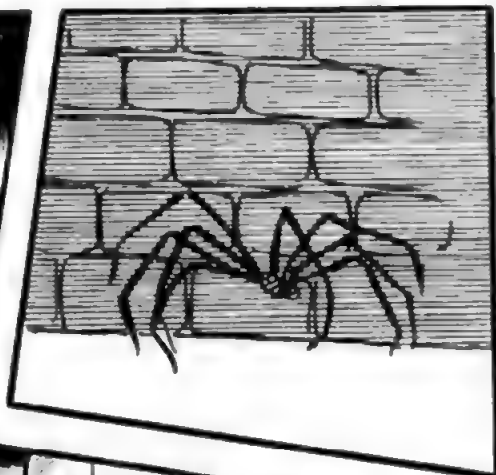
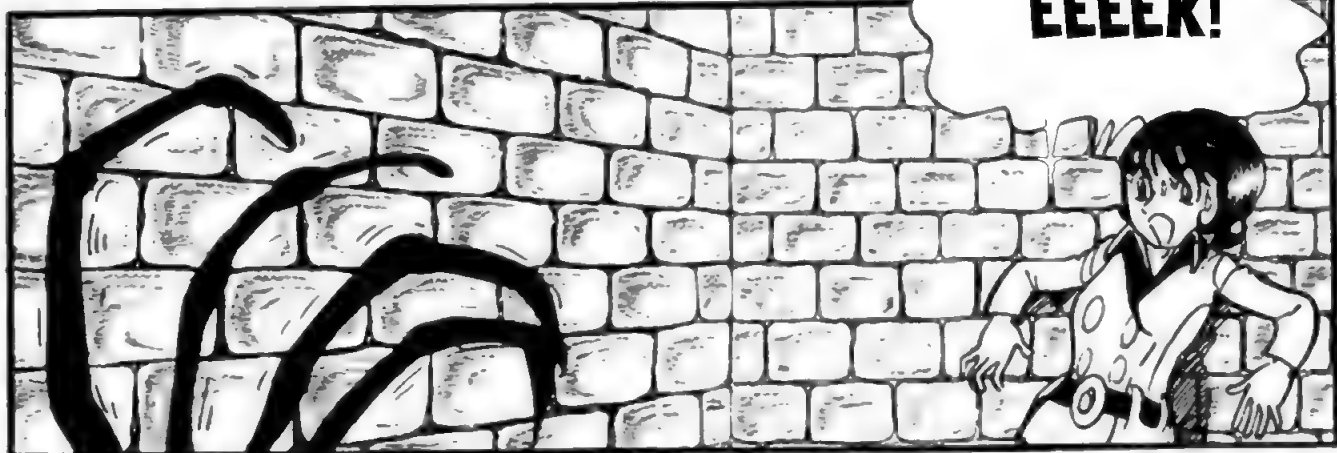


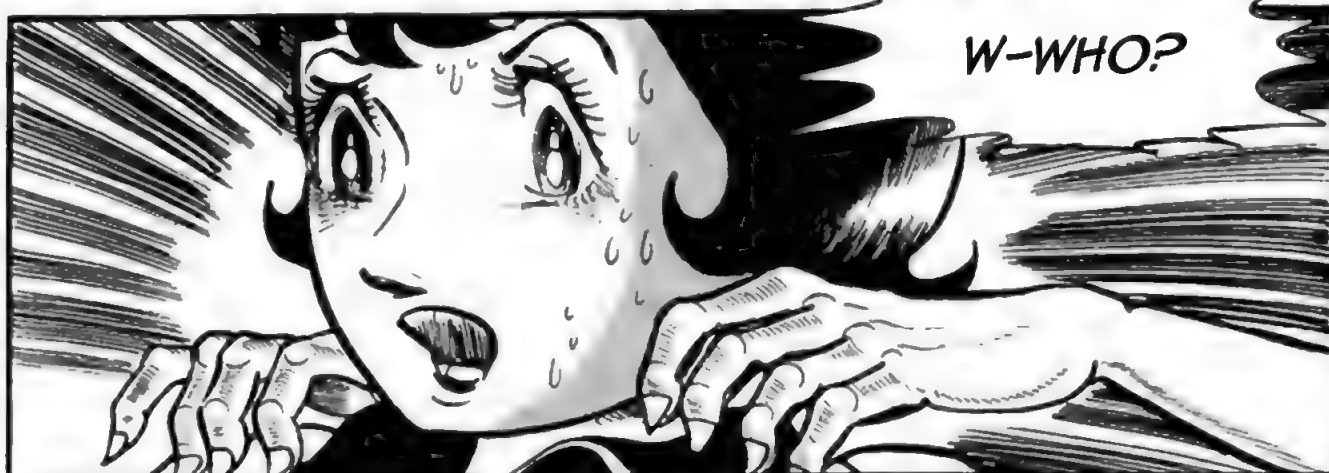






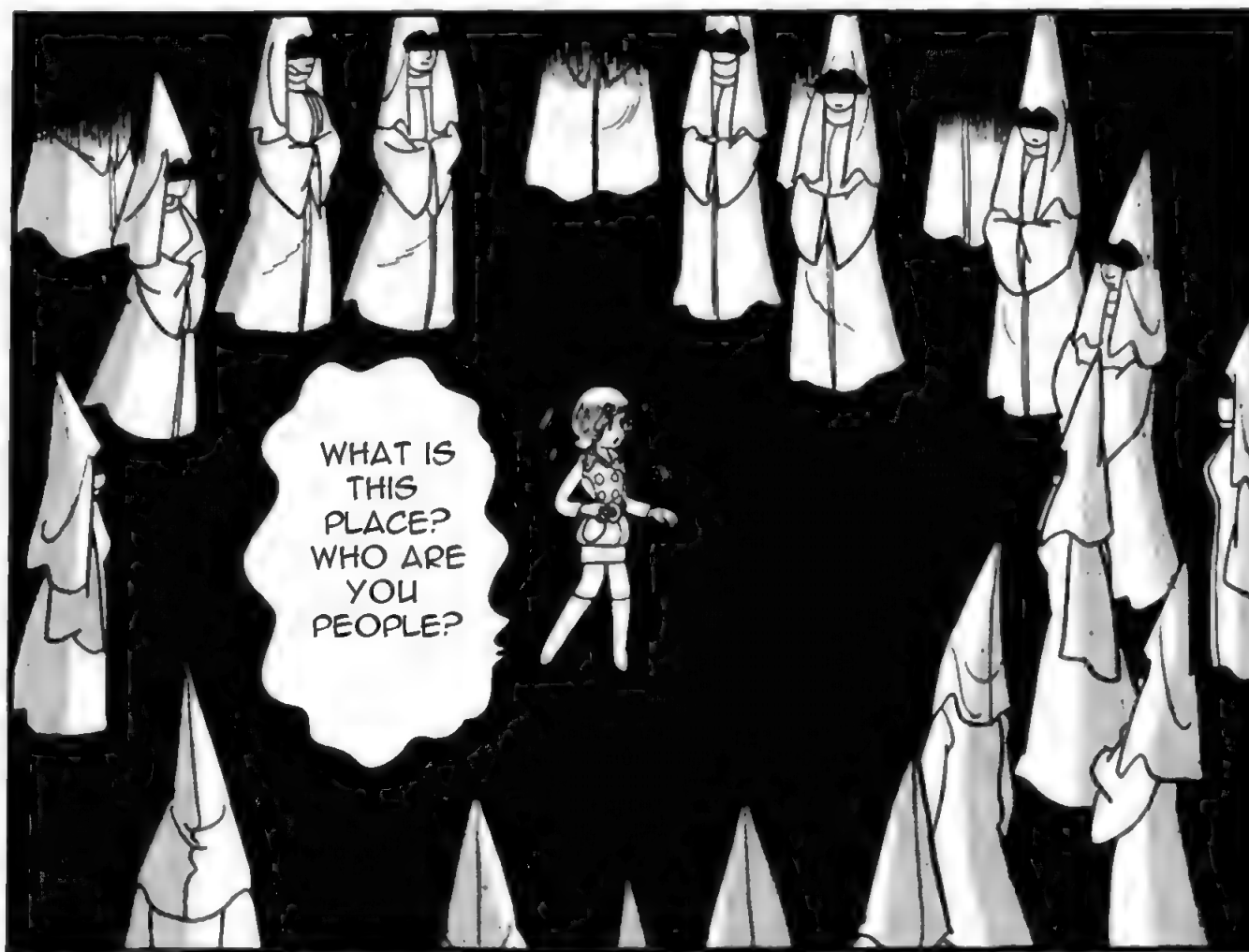




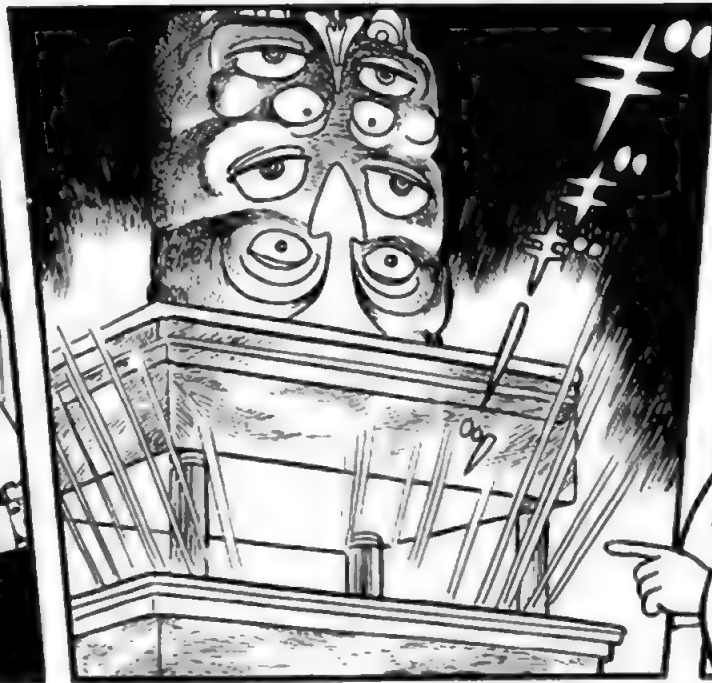


W-WHO?





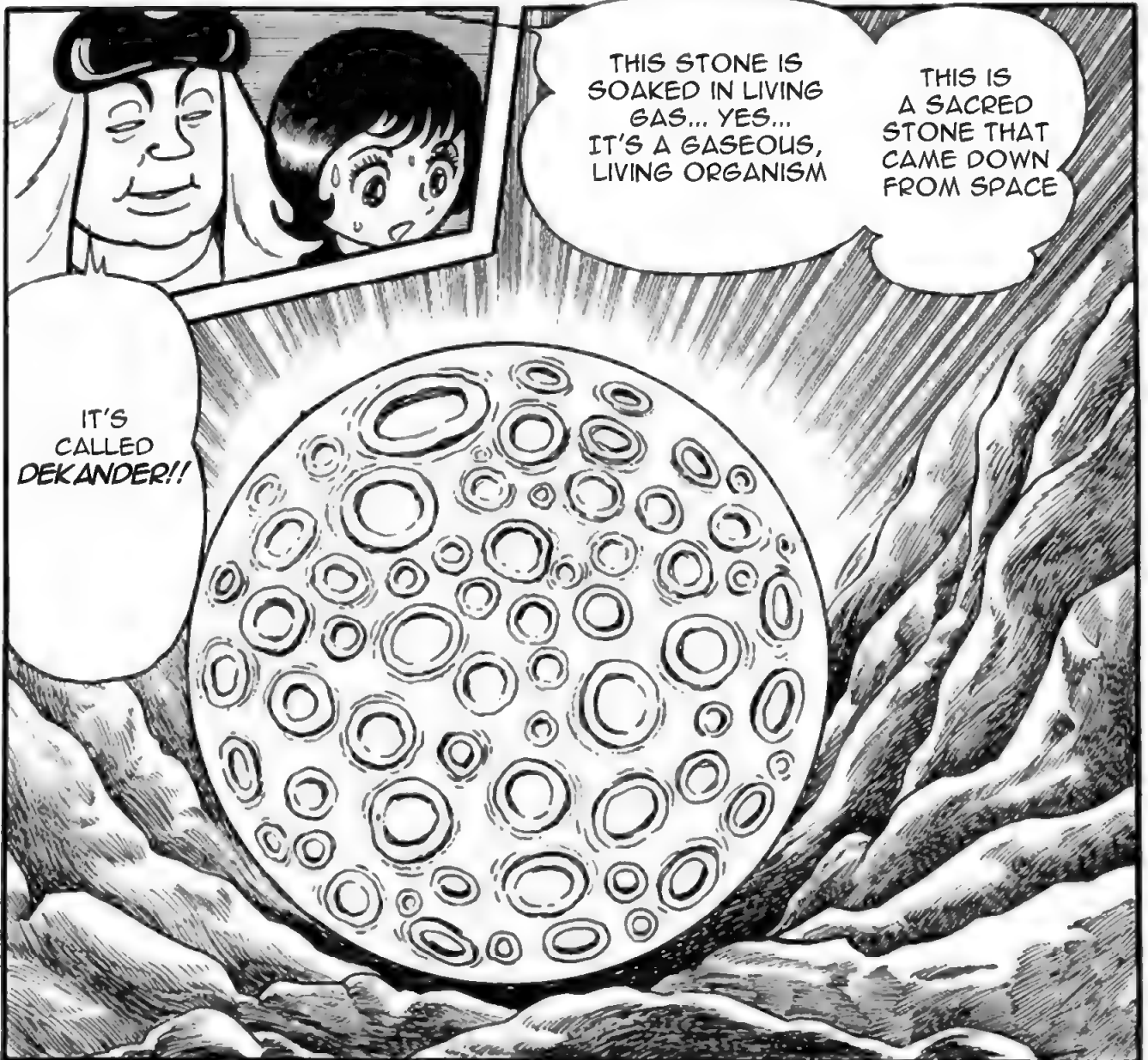


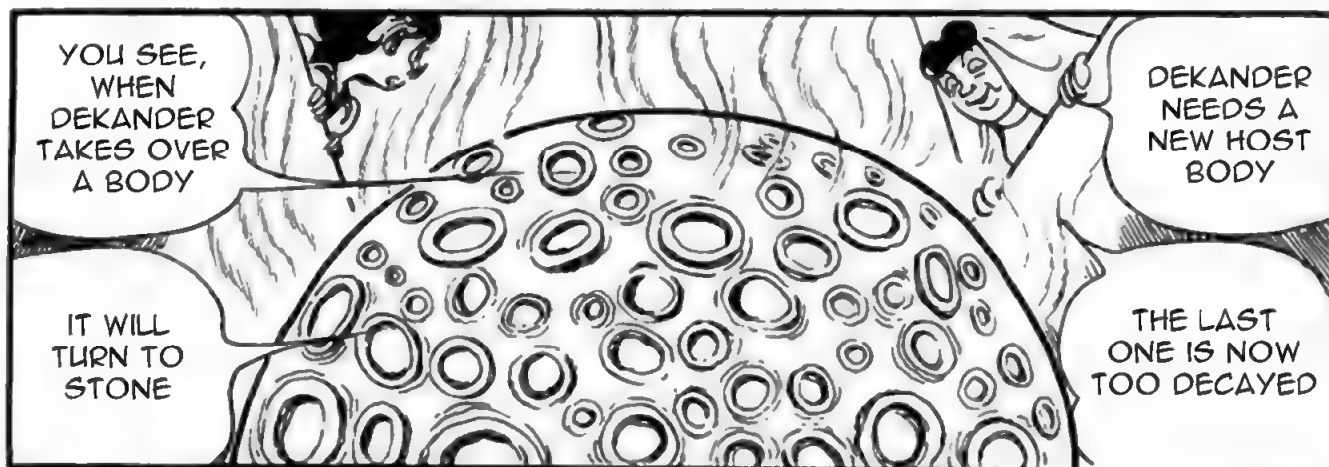


THIS STONE IS  
SOAKED IN LIVING  
GAS... YES...  
IT'S A GASEOUS,  
LIVING ORGANISM

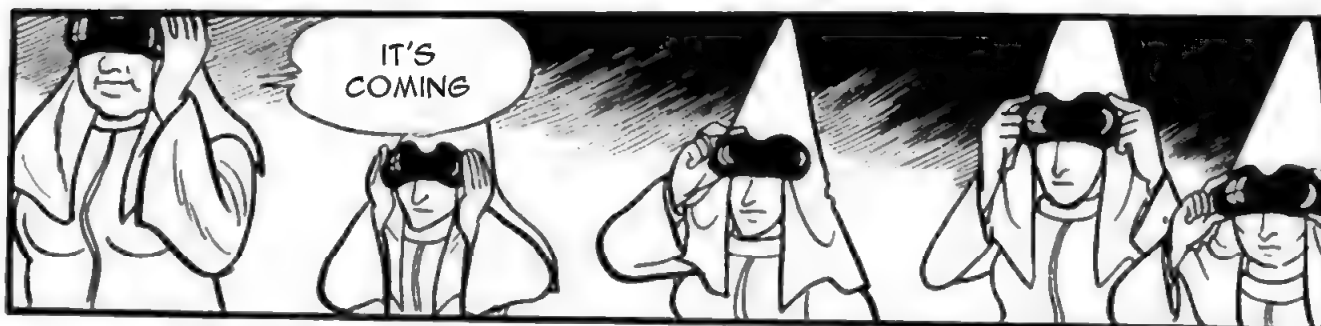
THIS IS  
A SACRED  
STONE THAT  
CAME DOWN  
FROM SPACE

IT'S  
CALLED  
DEKANDER!!







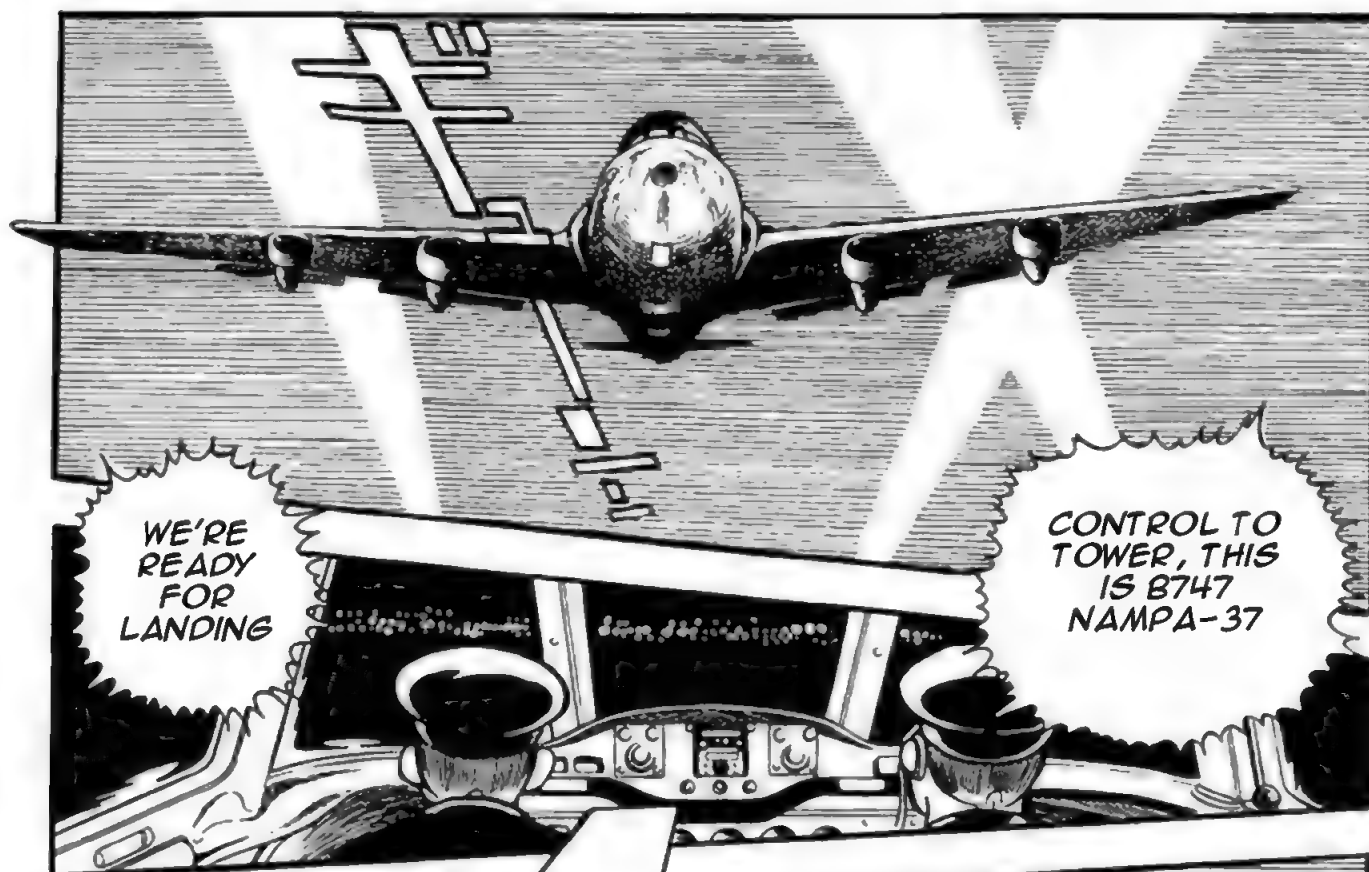




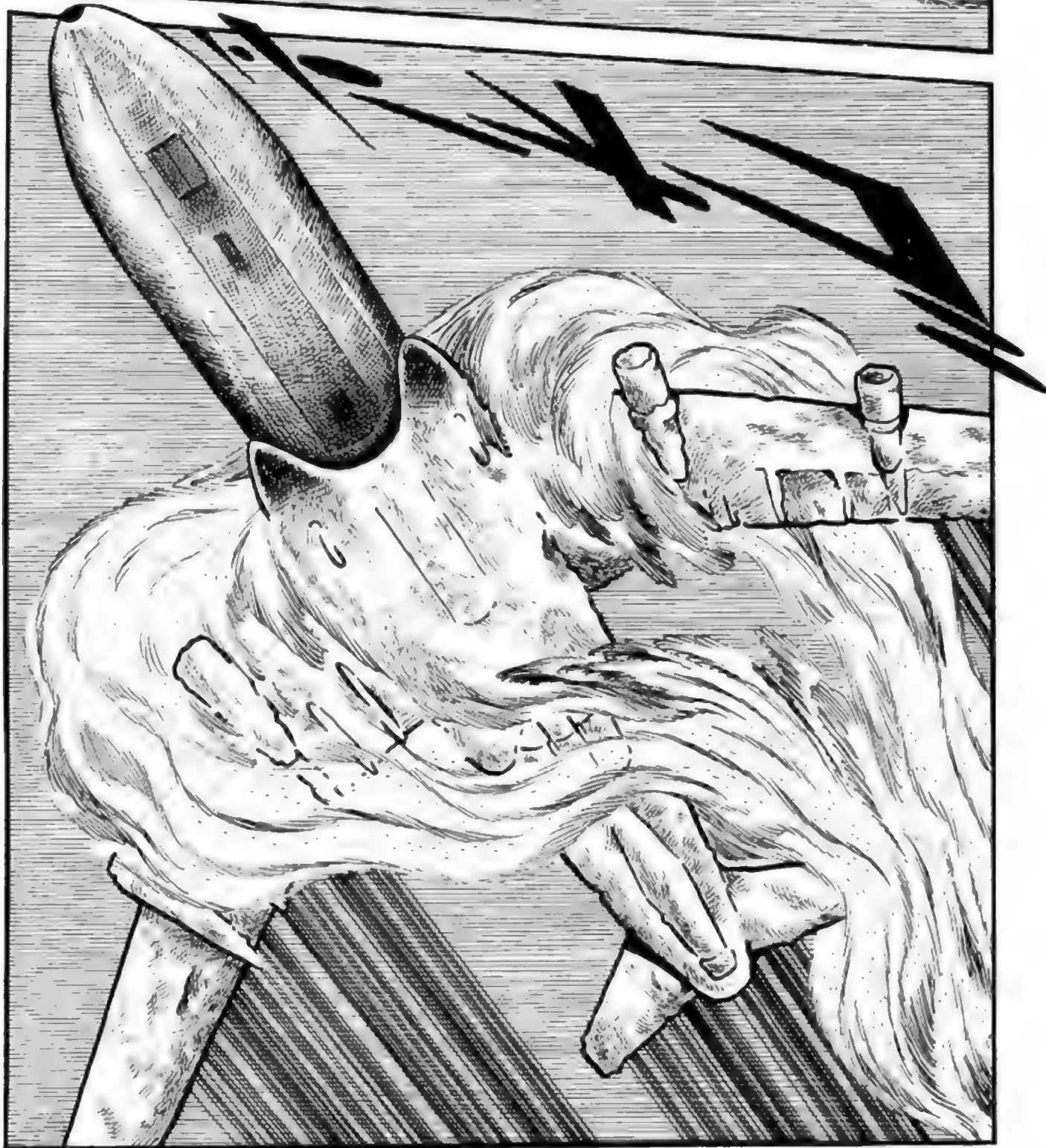


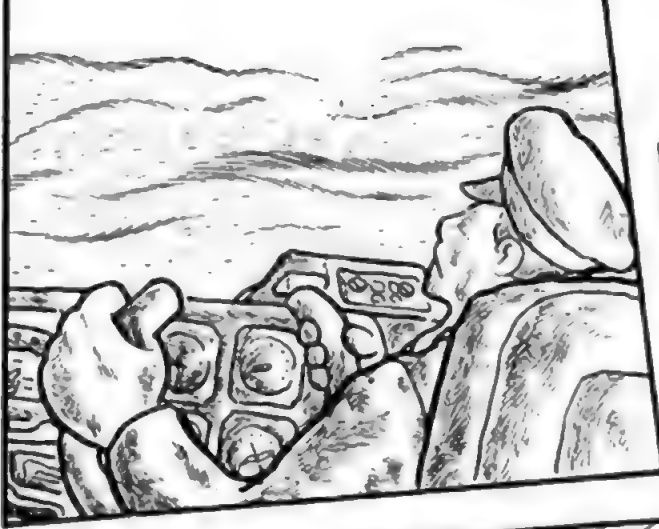


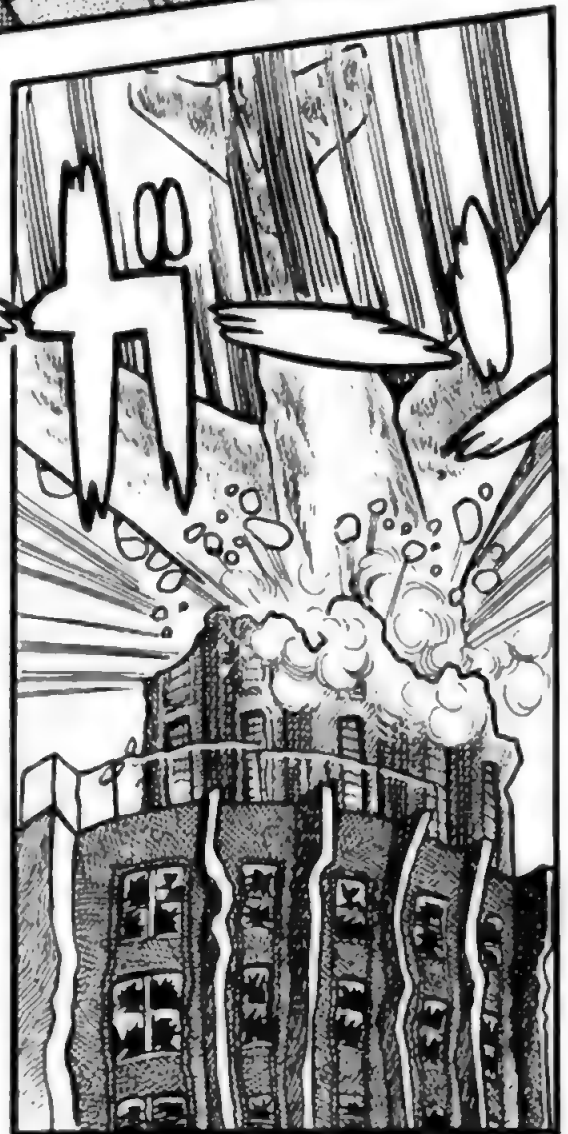
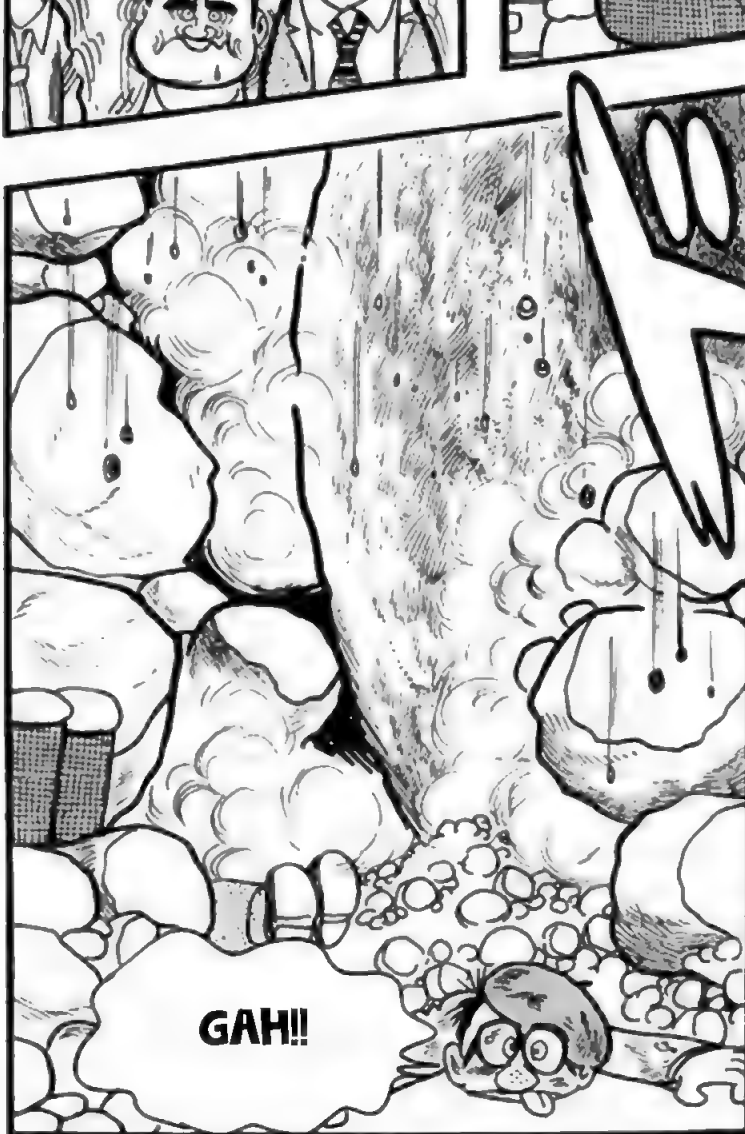




















THOSE  
AREN'T STONE  
STATUES...  
THEY...  
THEY'RE....

WHAT'S GOING  
ON? WHY ARE  
THERE ALL THESE  
STATUES?

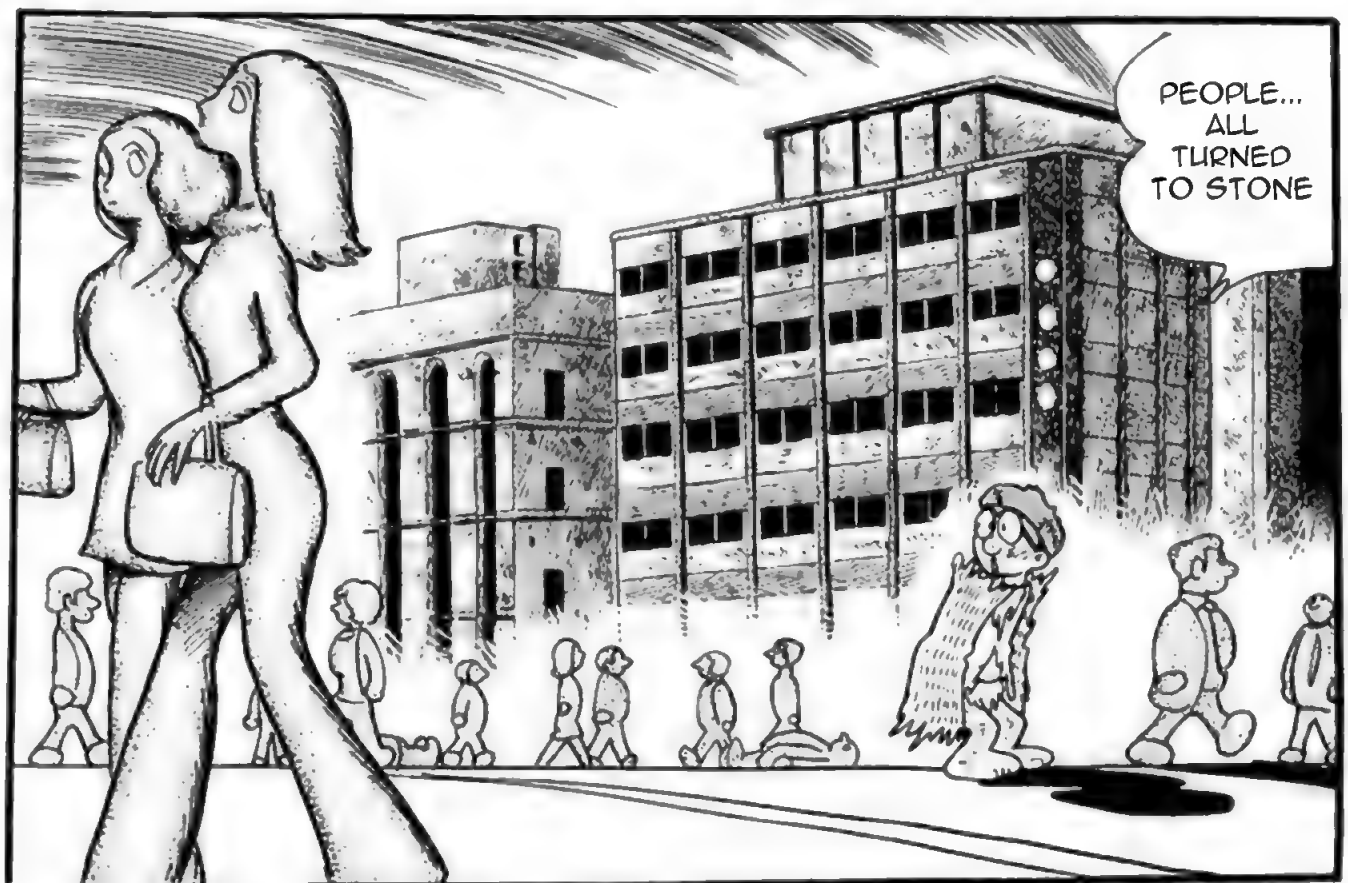
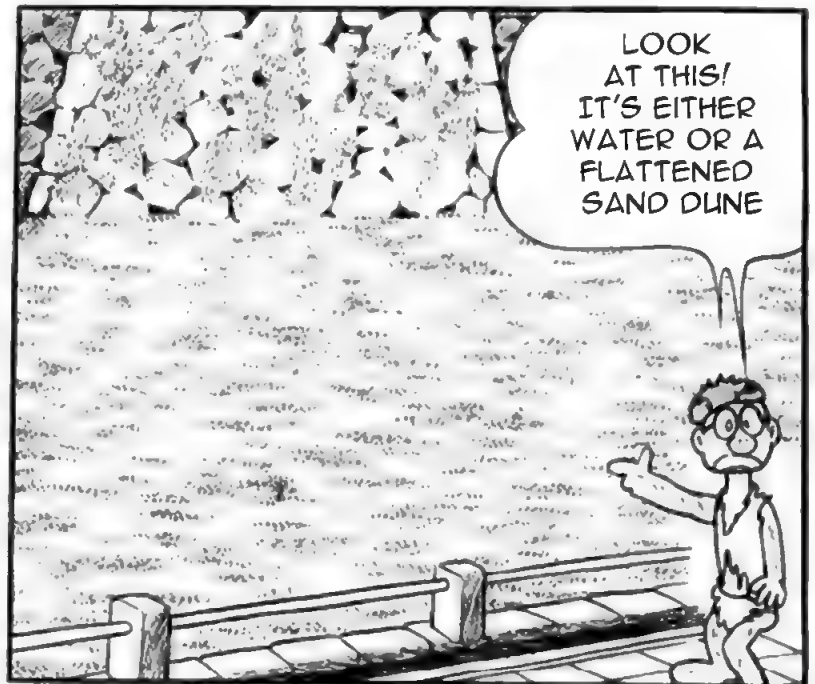
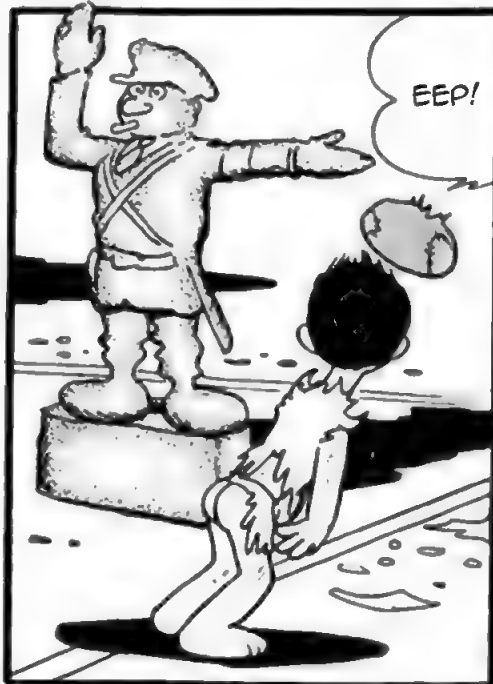
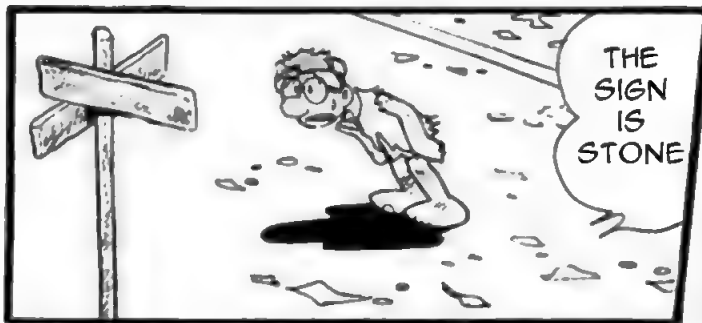


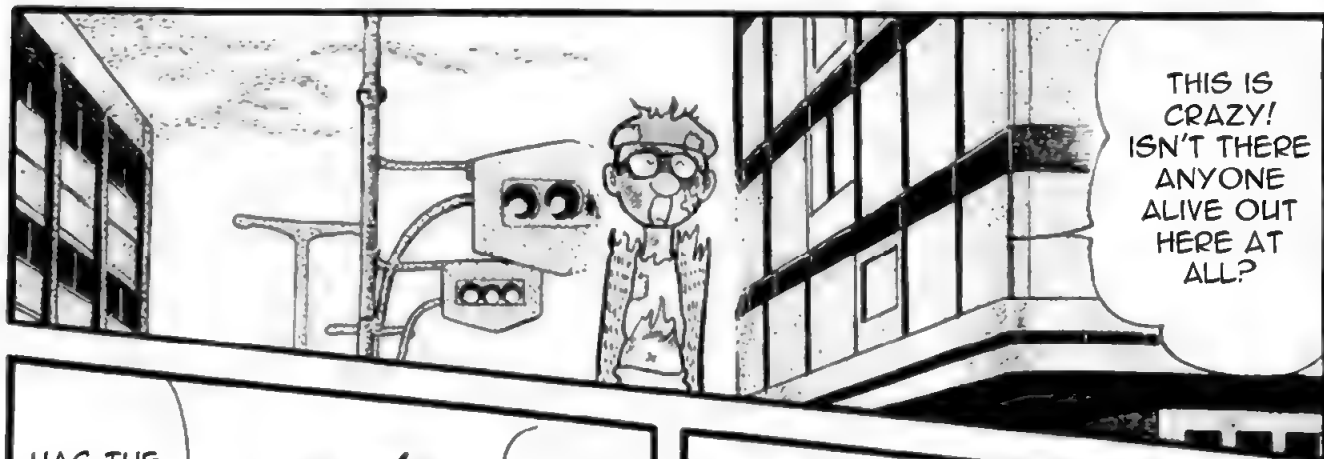
HUMAN  
FOSSILS!



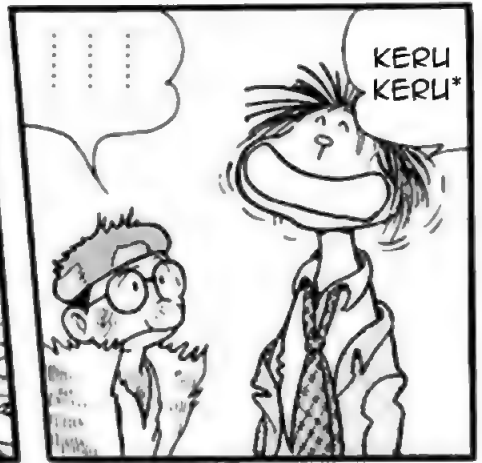
REAL  
HUMAN  
BEINGS  
TURNED  
TO STONE!





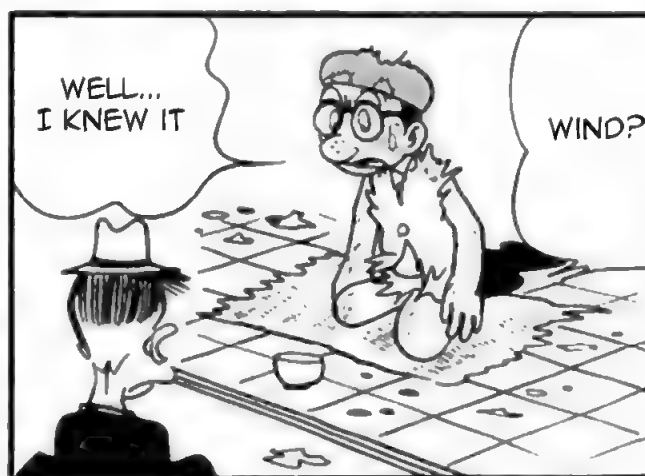
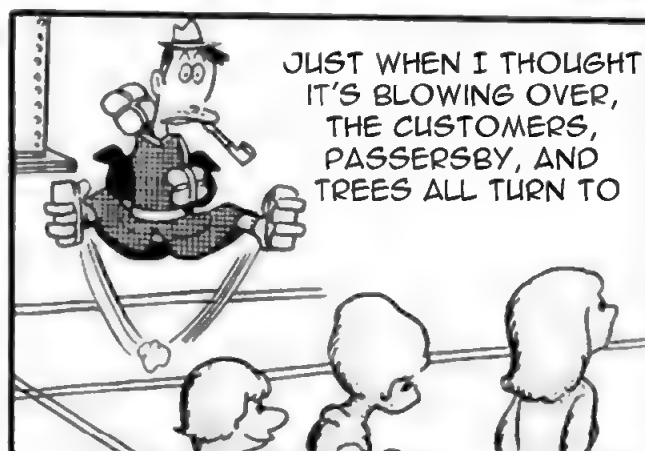






\*CRICKET SOUNDS

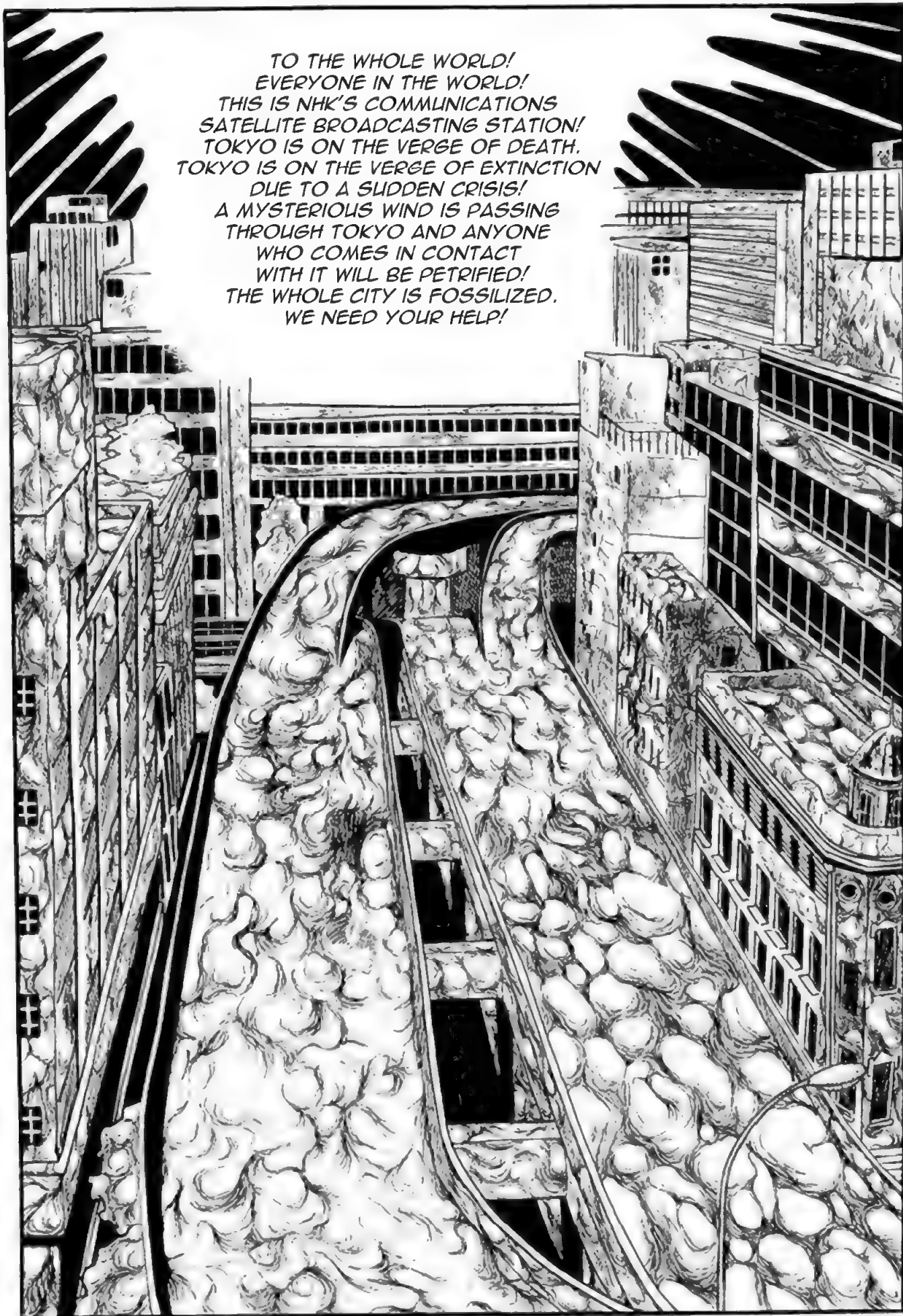




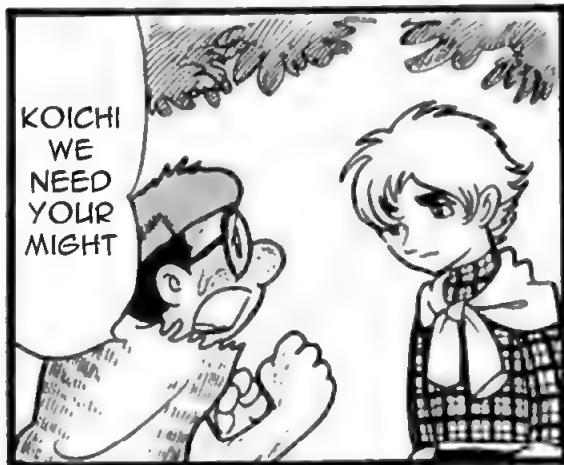
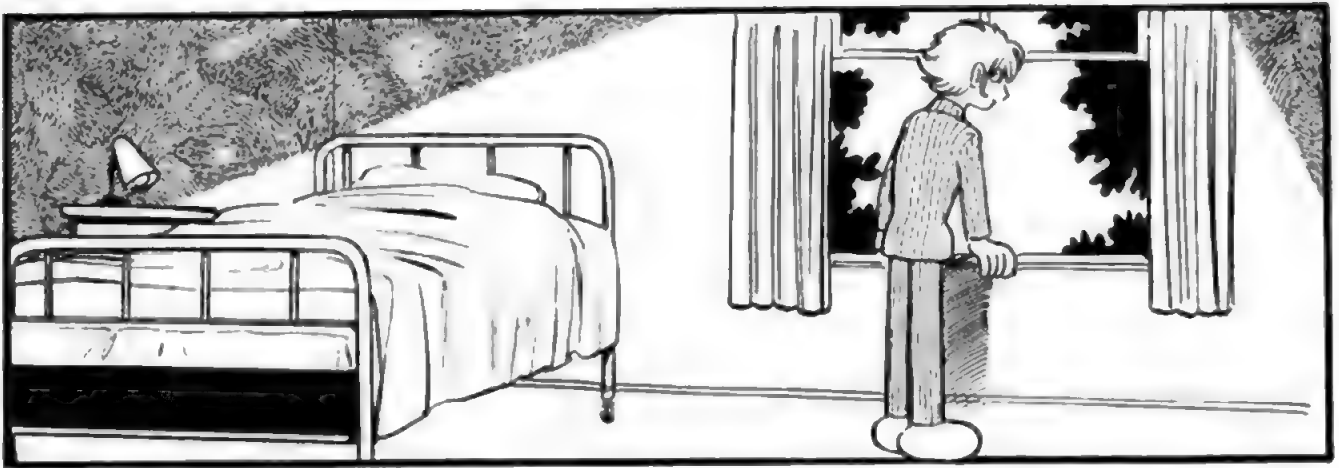
## 第5章

EPILOGUE

TO THE WHOLE WORLD!  
EVERYONE IN THE WORLD!  
THIS IS NHK'S COMMUNICATIONS  
SATELLITE BROADCASTING STATION!  
TOKYO IS ON THE VERGE OF DEATH.  
TOKYO IS ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION  
DUE TO A SUDDEN CRISIS!  
A MYSTERIOUS WIND IS PASSING  
THROUGH TOKYO AND ANYONE  
WHO COMES IN CONTACT  
WITH IT WILL BE PETRIFIED!  
THE WHOLE CITY IS FOSSILIZED.  
WE NEED YOUR HELP!









IF WE LEAVE  
DEKANDER TO  
DO AS IT WISHES  
NOT ONLY JAPAN  
BUT THE WHOLE  
WORLD WILL  
BE DOOMED

YOU'RE  
THE ONLY  
ONE WHO CAN  
FIND AND  
CONFRONT  
DEKANDER



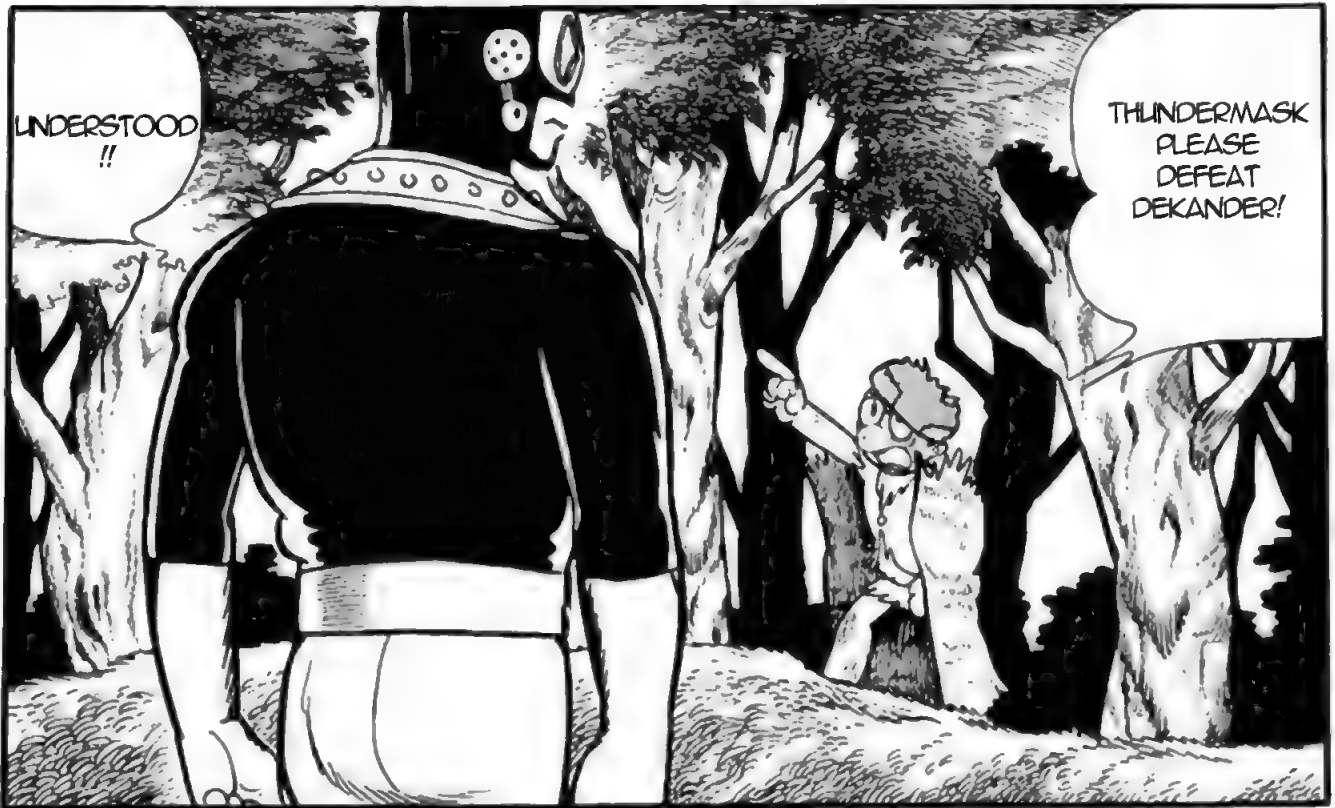
I  
UNDER-  
STAND



BUT  
THAT'S  
NOT ALL

.....  
THIS  
WILL BE  
THUNDER-  
MASK'S  
LAST  
BATTLE

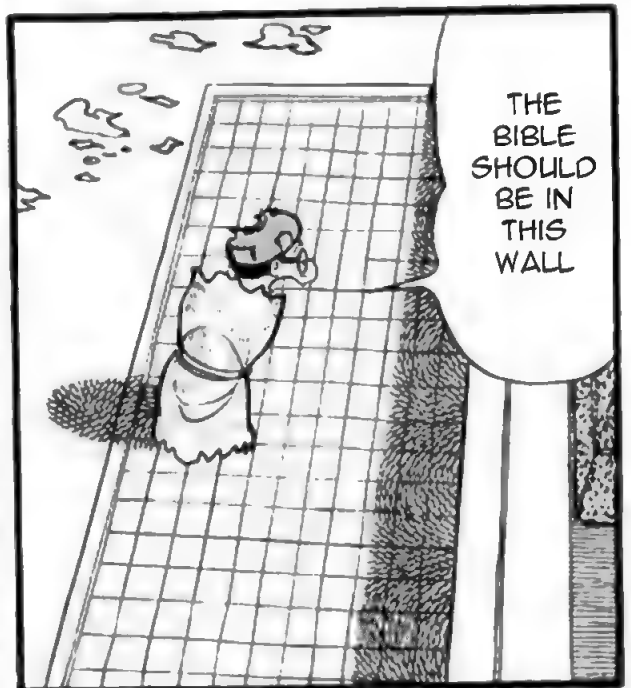
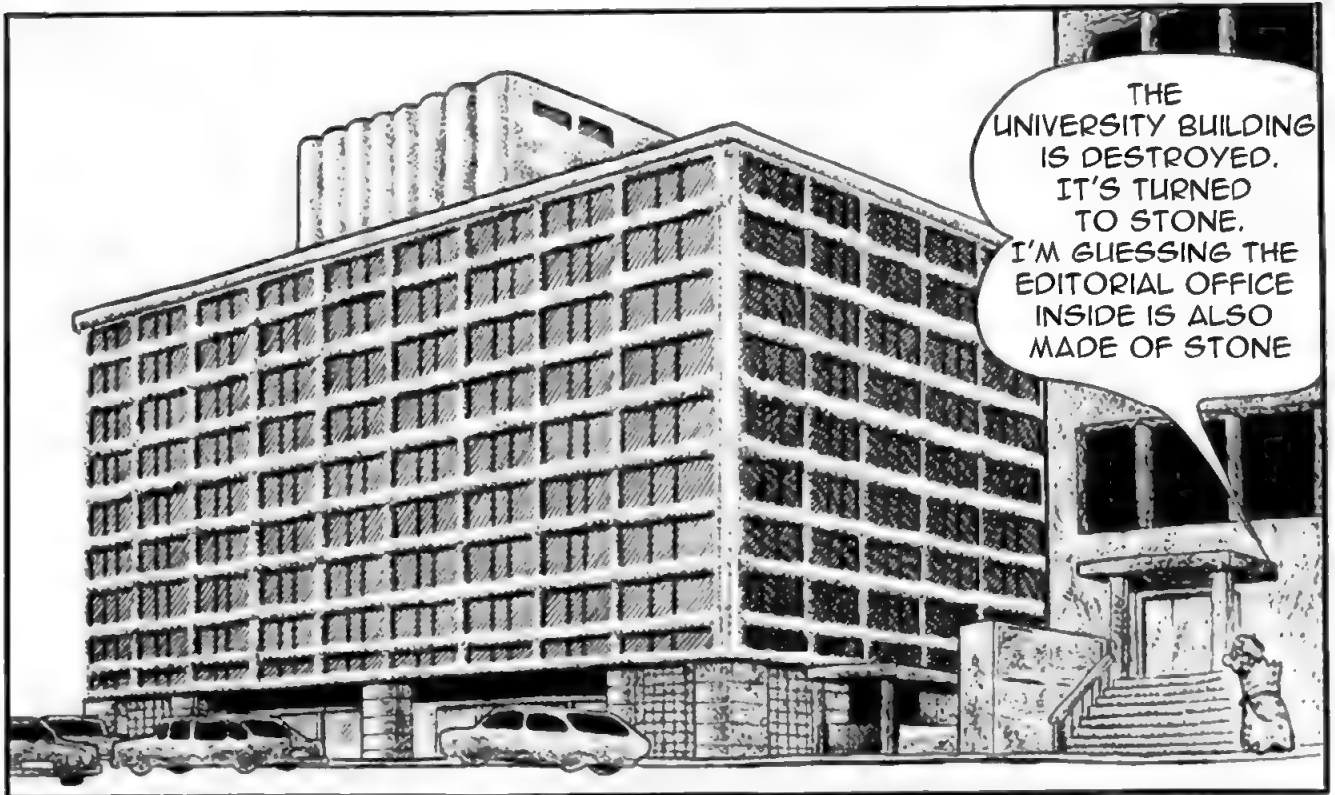
I'VE AVOIDED  
PUBLIC APPEAR-  
ANCES AS  
MUCH AS  
POSSIBLE  
BECAUSE I  
DON'T WANT TO  
CAUSE ANY  
UNNECESSARY  
TRAUMA



I'M SURE I'LL  
FIND DEKANDER,  
BUT I NEED YOU  
TO READ THE  
BIBLE IN ORDER  
TO SAVE ALL  
LIFE ON EARTH.  
IF YOU  
CAN DECIPHER  
IT, YOU'LL  
FIND A WAY TO  
SAVE YOURSELF  
FROM  
DEKANDER









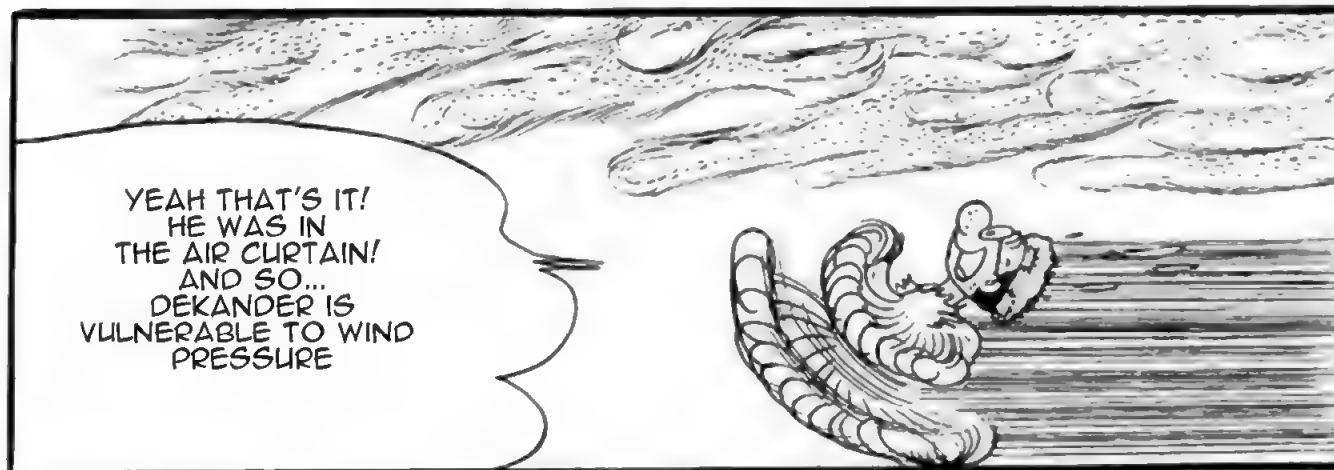
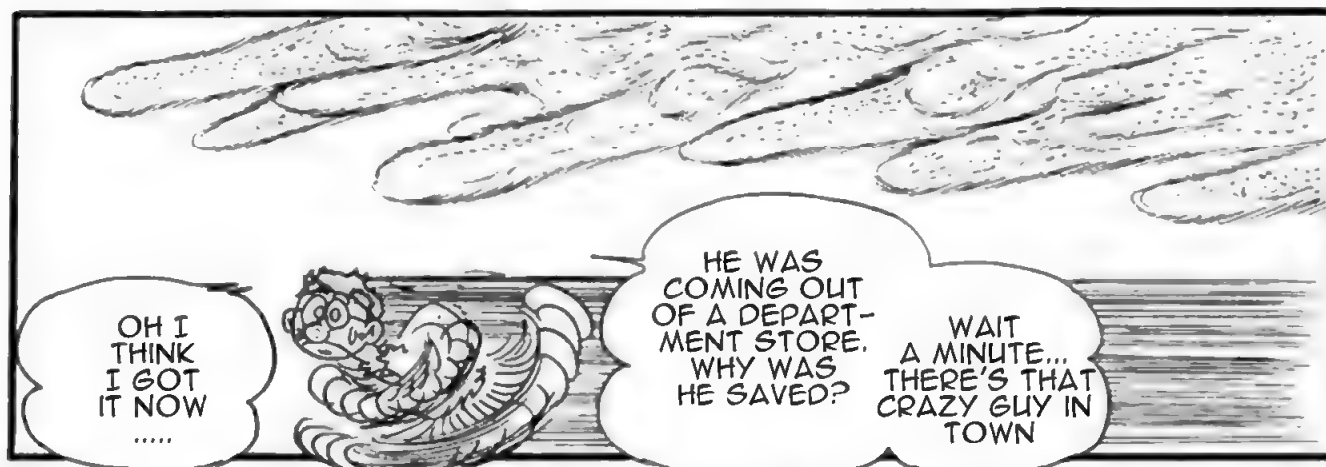
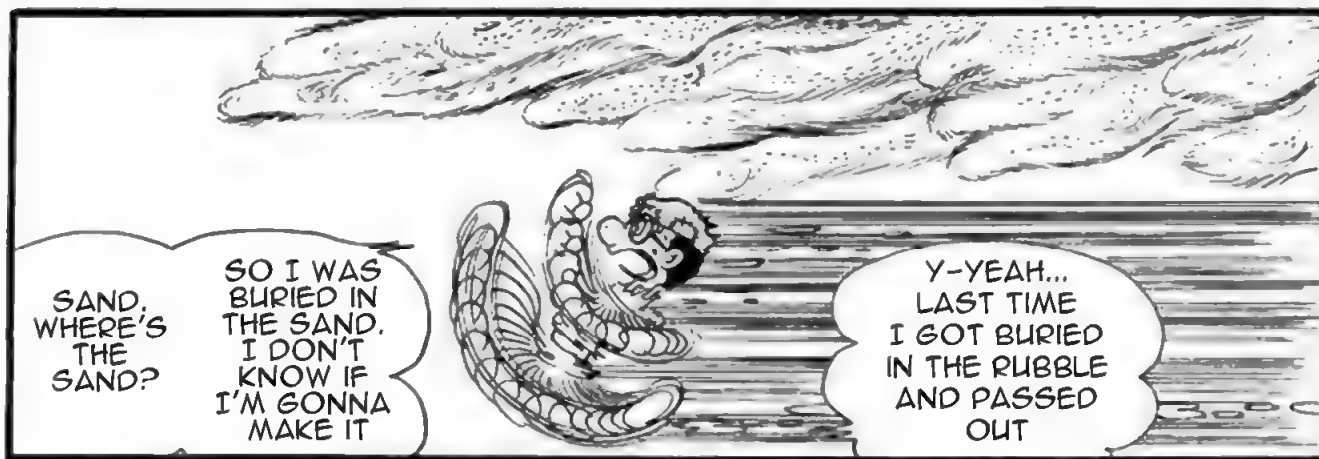
PULLING THAT  
STONE OUT  
IS WORSE THAN  
PULLING OUT  
MY TEETH!



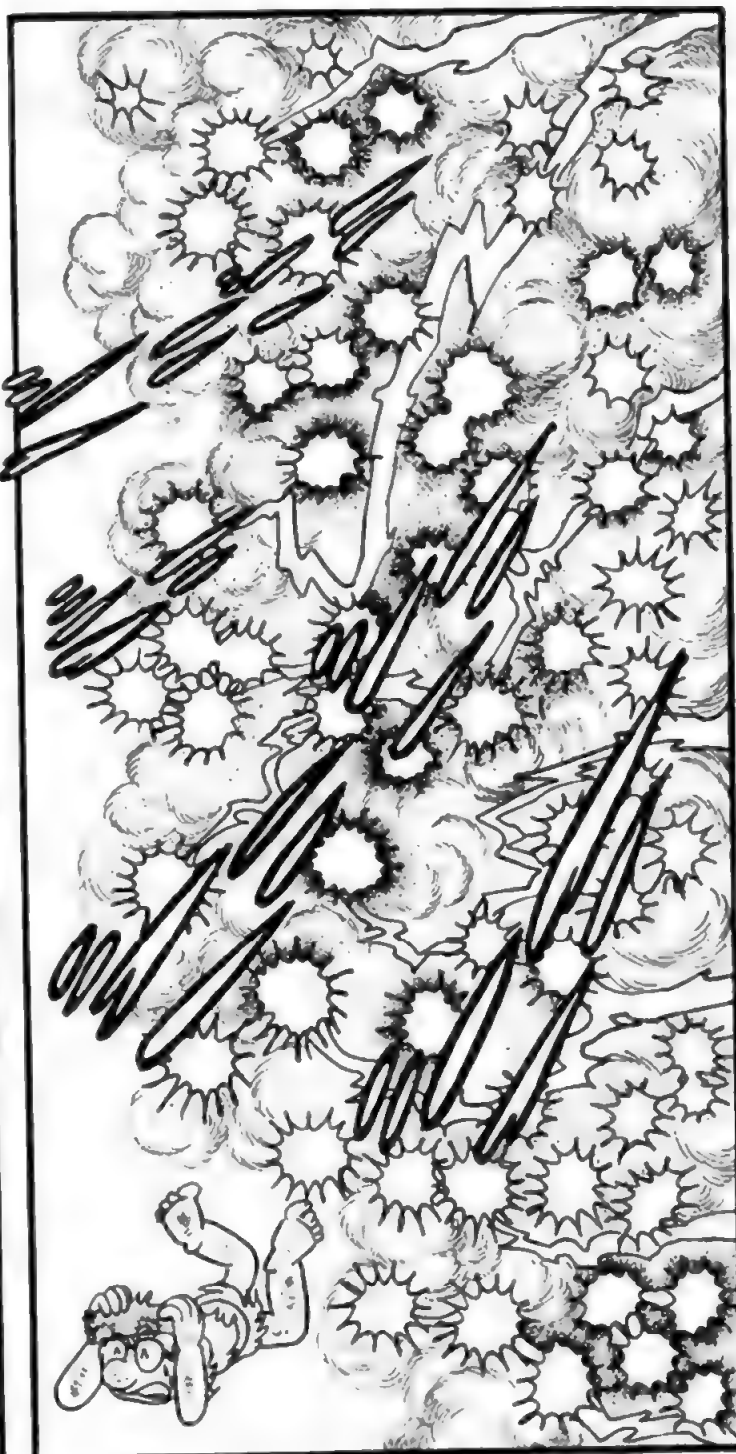
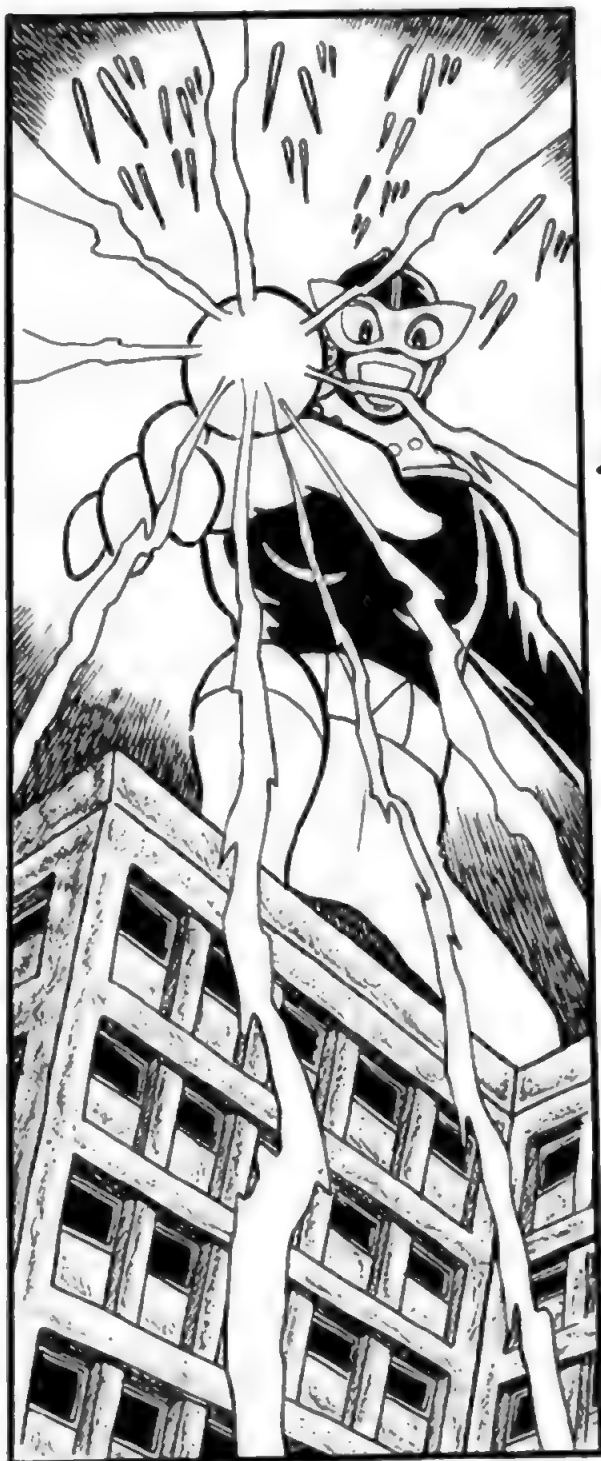
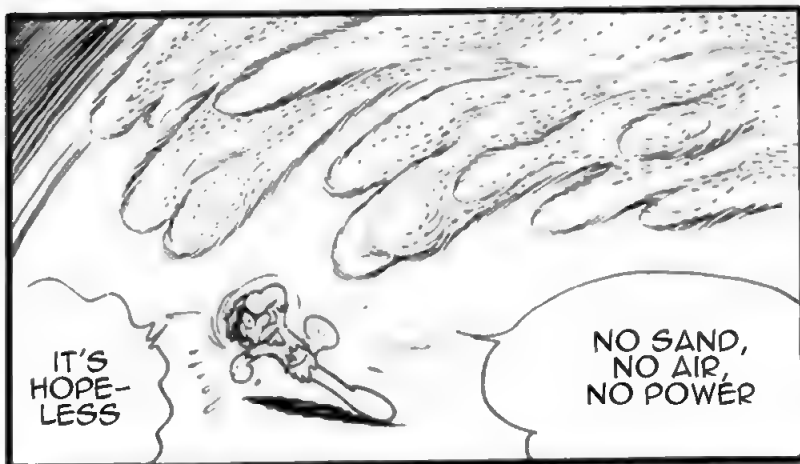
OH, MY  
GOD.  
HELP ME,  
PLEASE!

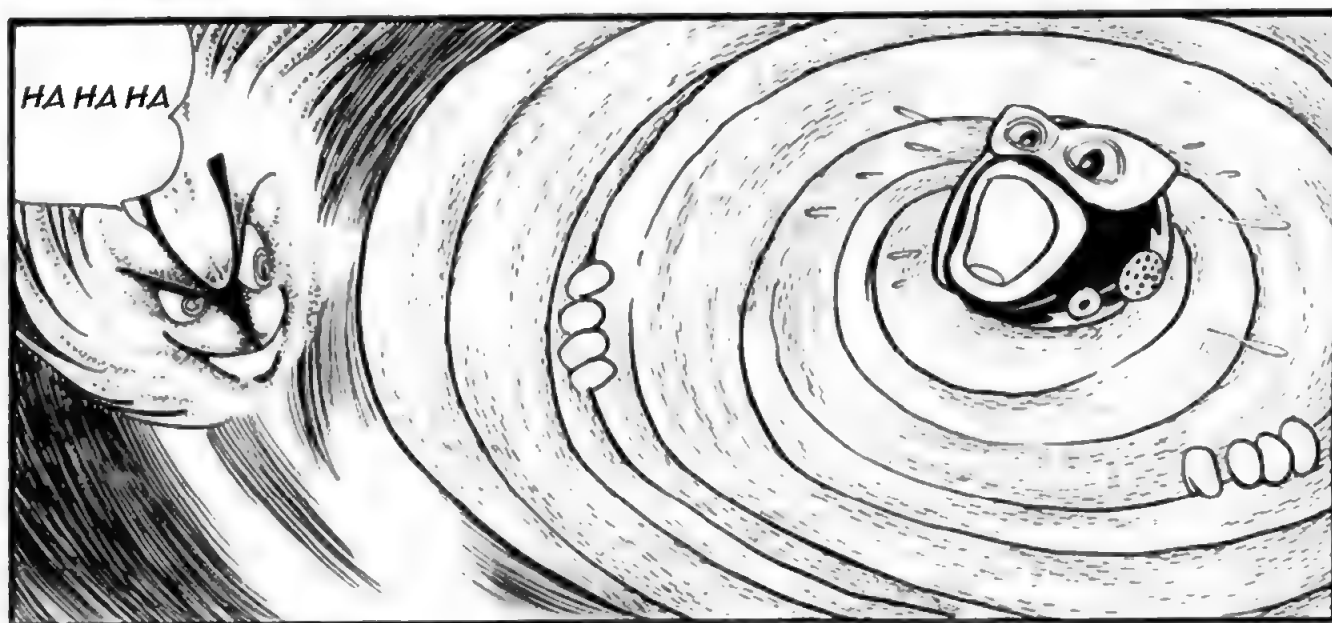
AAAAH!  
WHAT THE...  
IT'S...  
IT'S THE GAS!  
THE GAS IS  
COMING!!

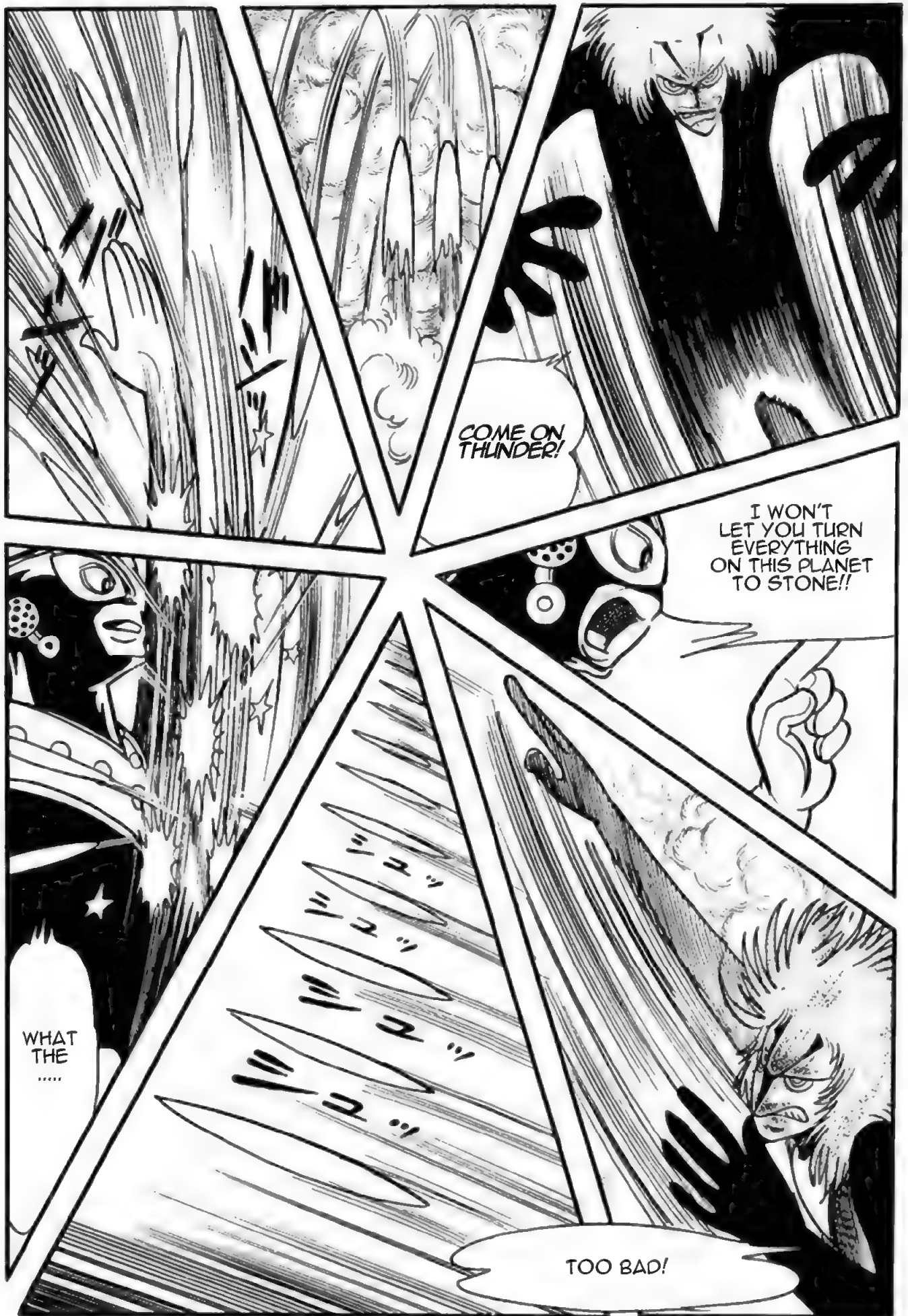
















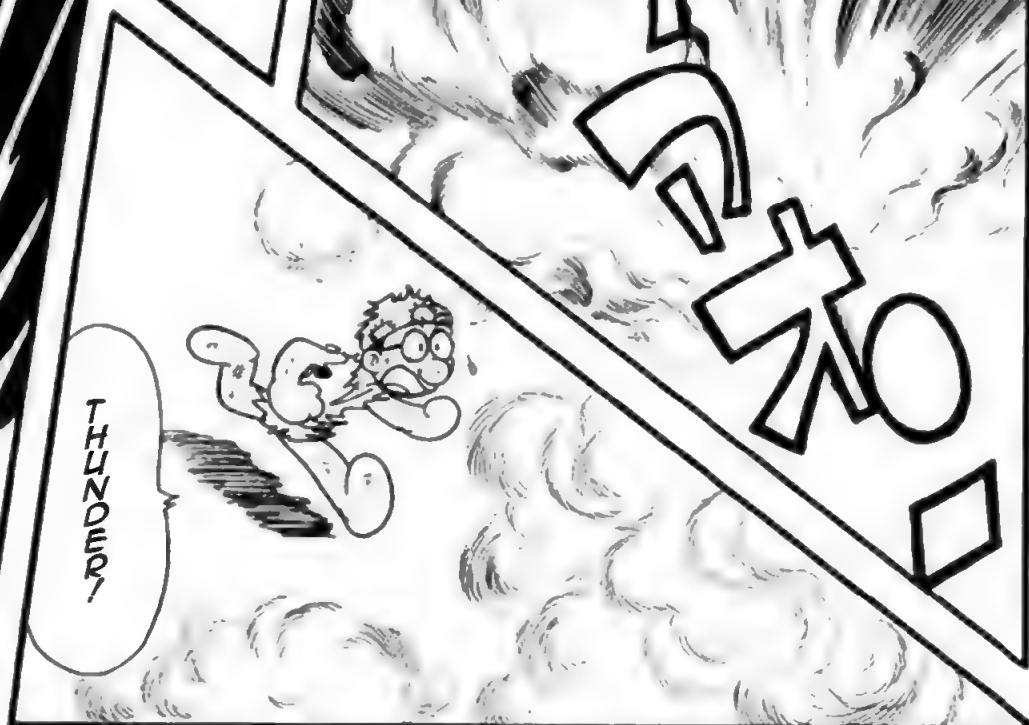
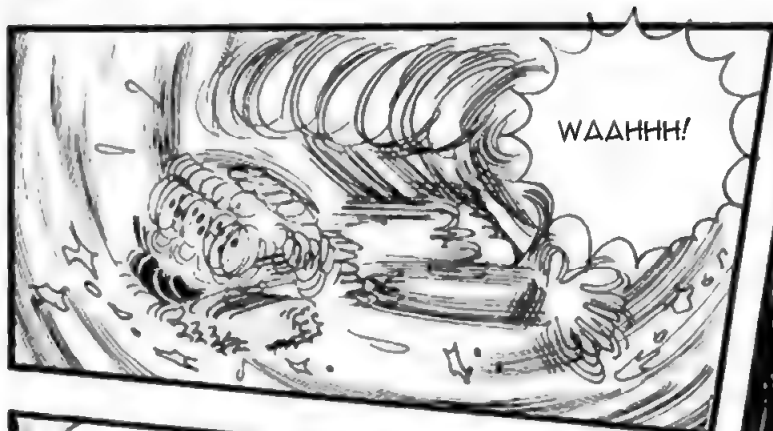


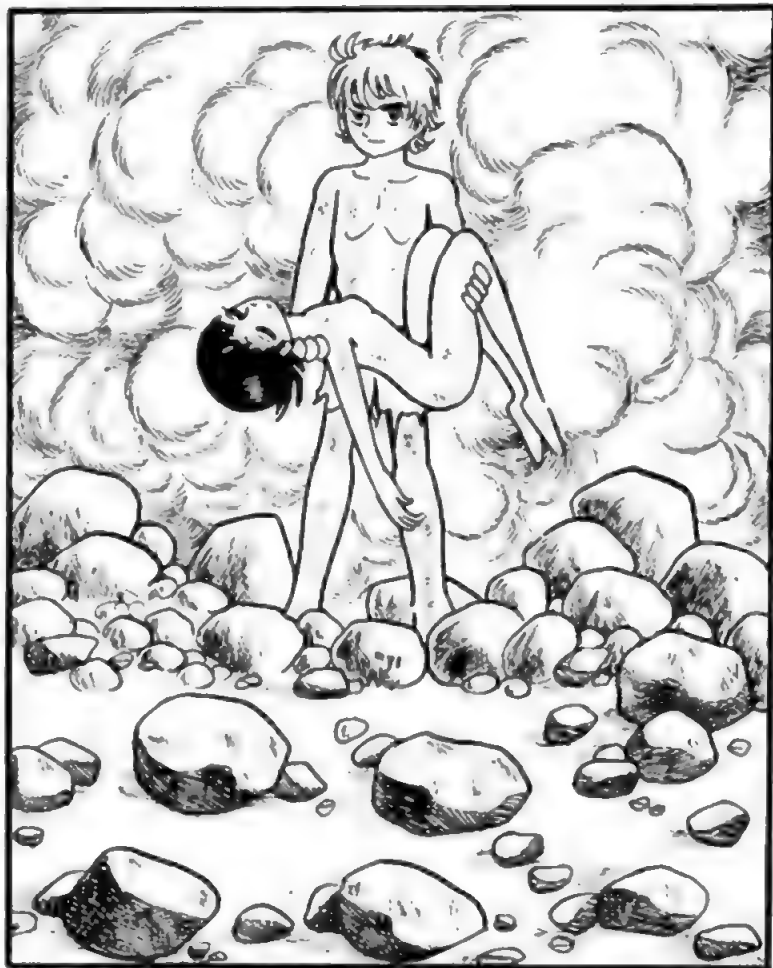
THUNDERMASK  
IS MAKING A  
TORNADO AND  
SWEEPING DEKANDER  
INTO THE AIR!



OH NO!  
THEY  
FELL AND  
CRASHED  
DOWN  
HARD!



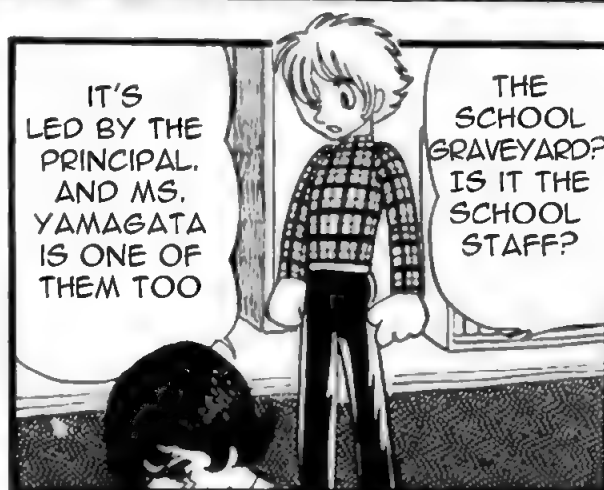
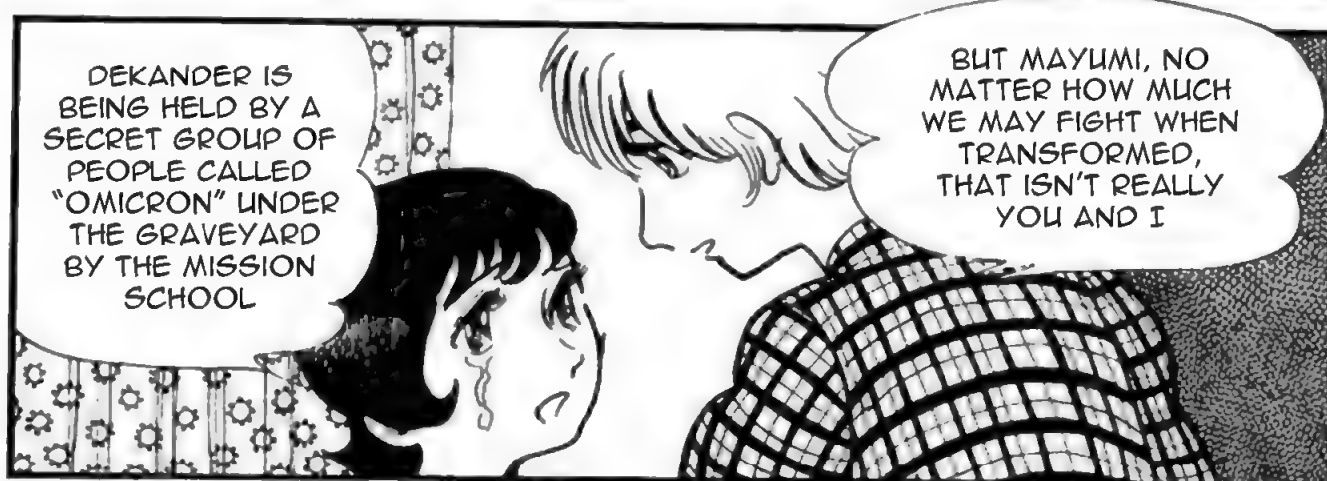


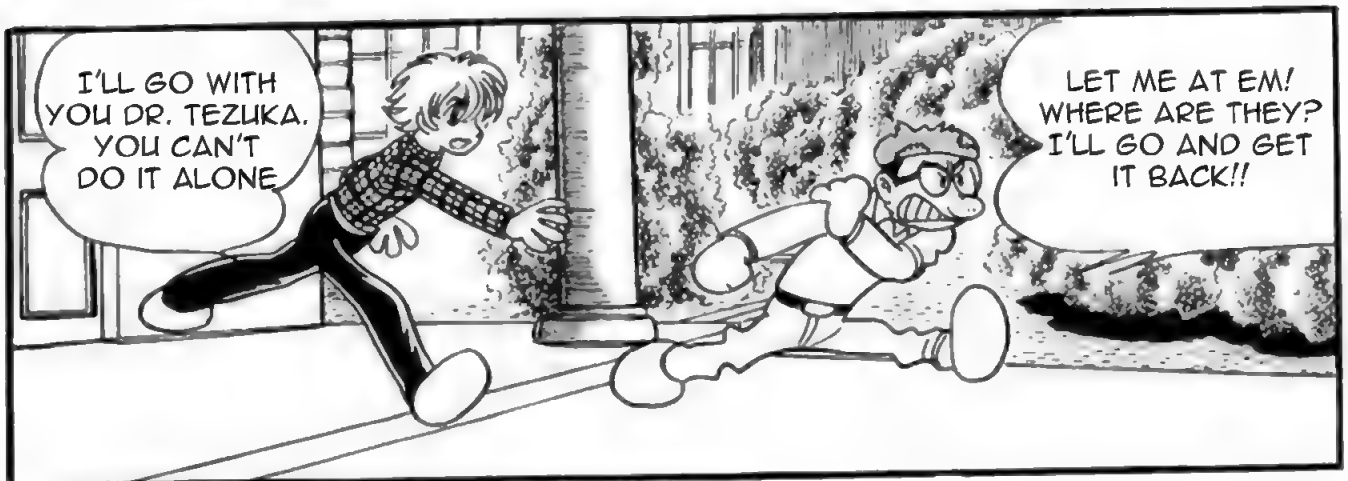








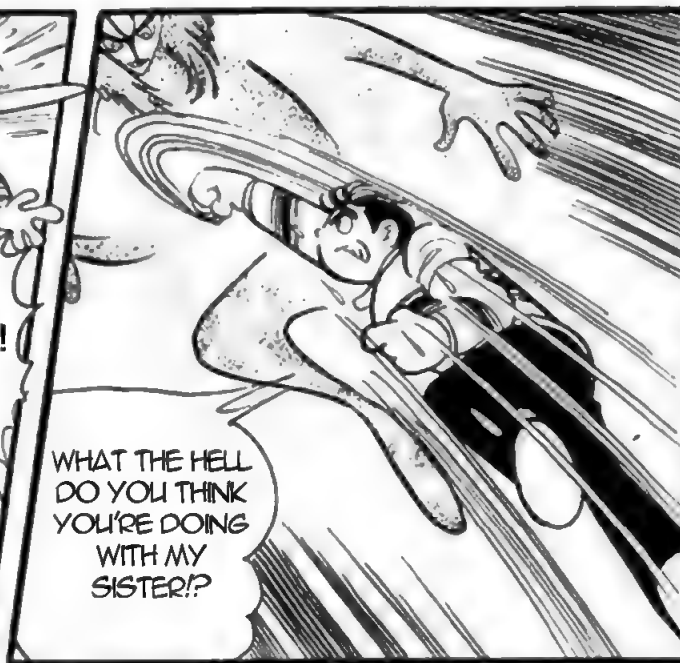


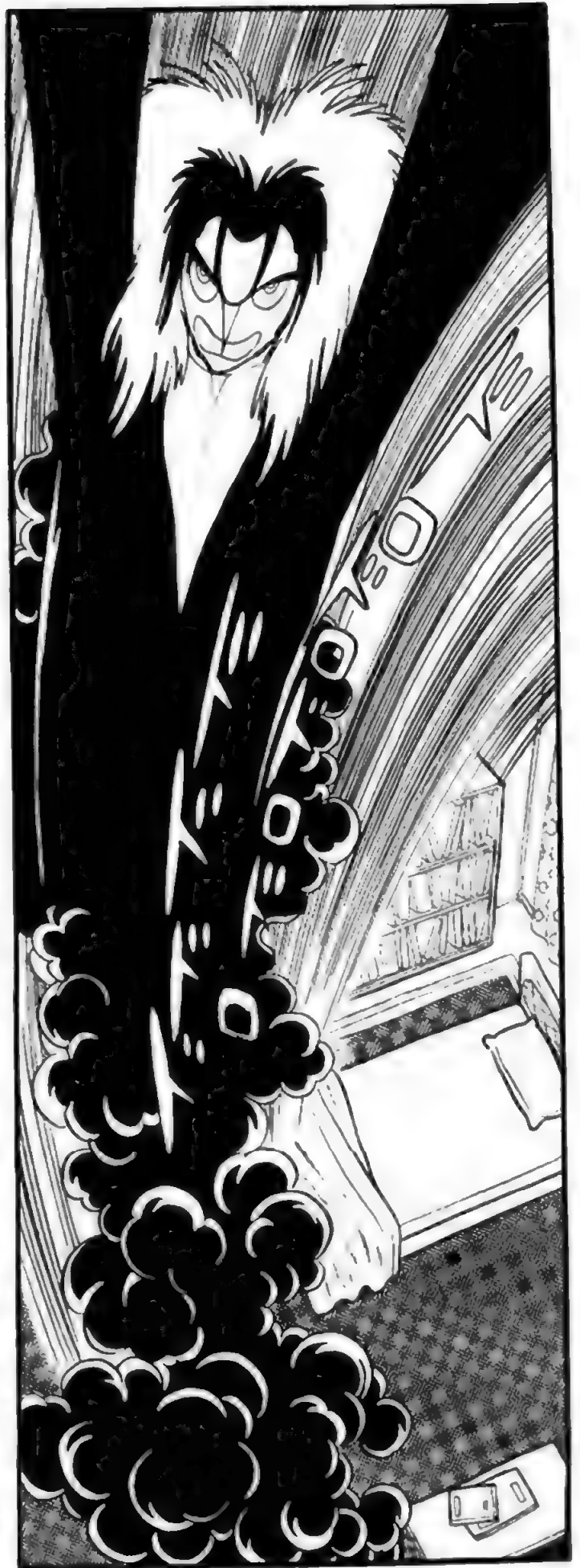


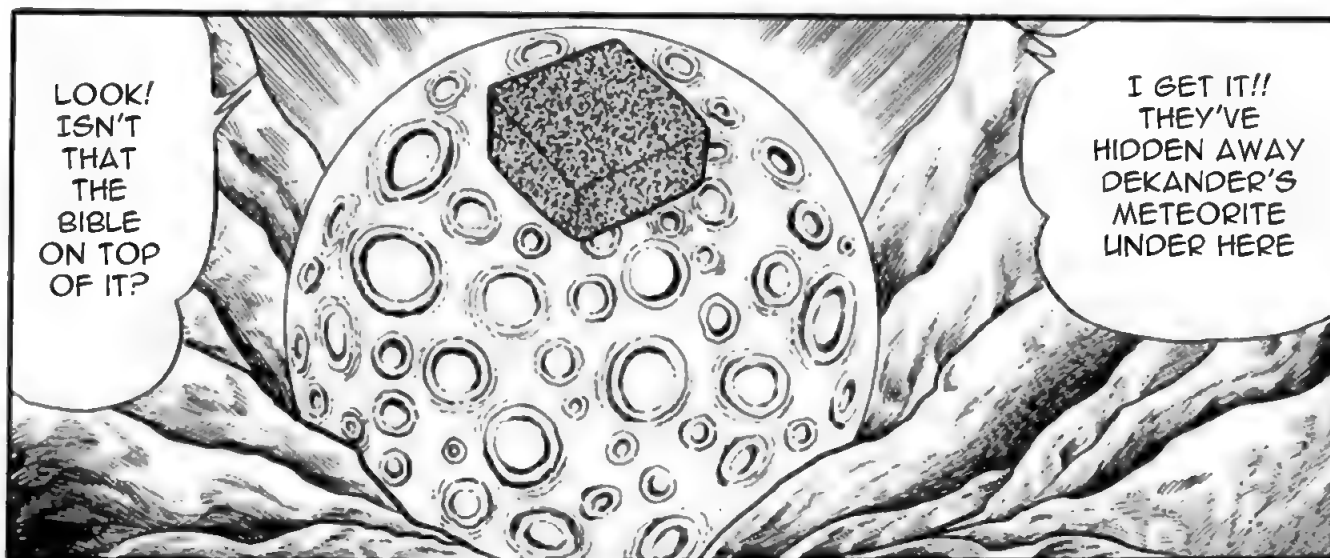




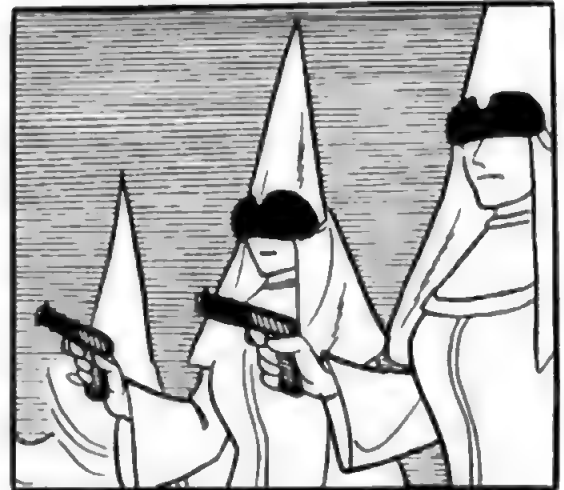
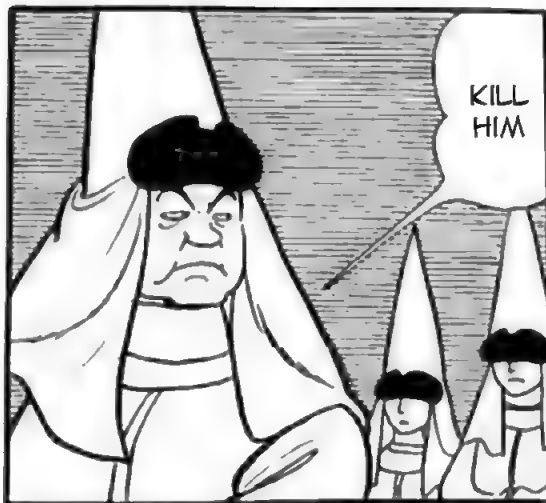
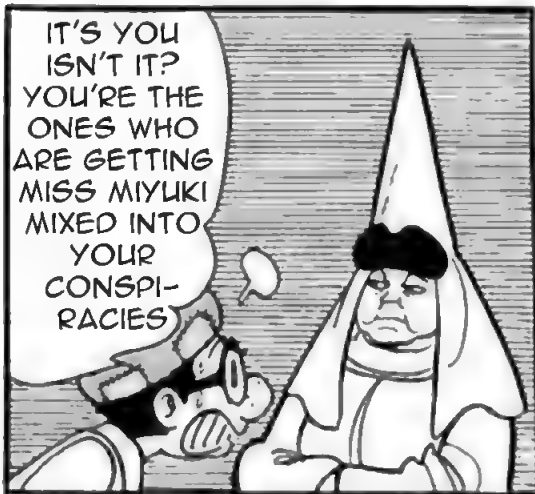


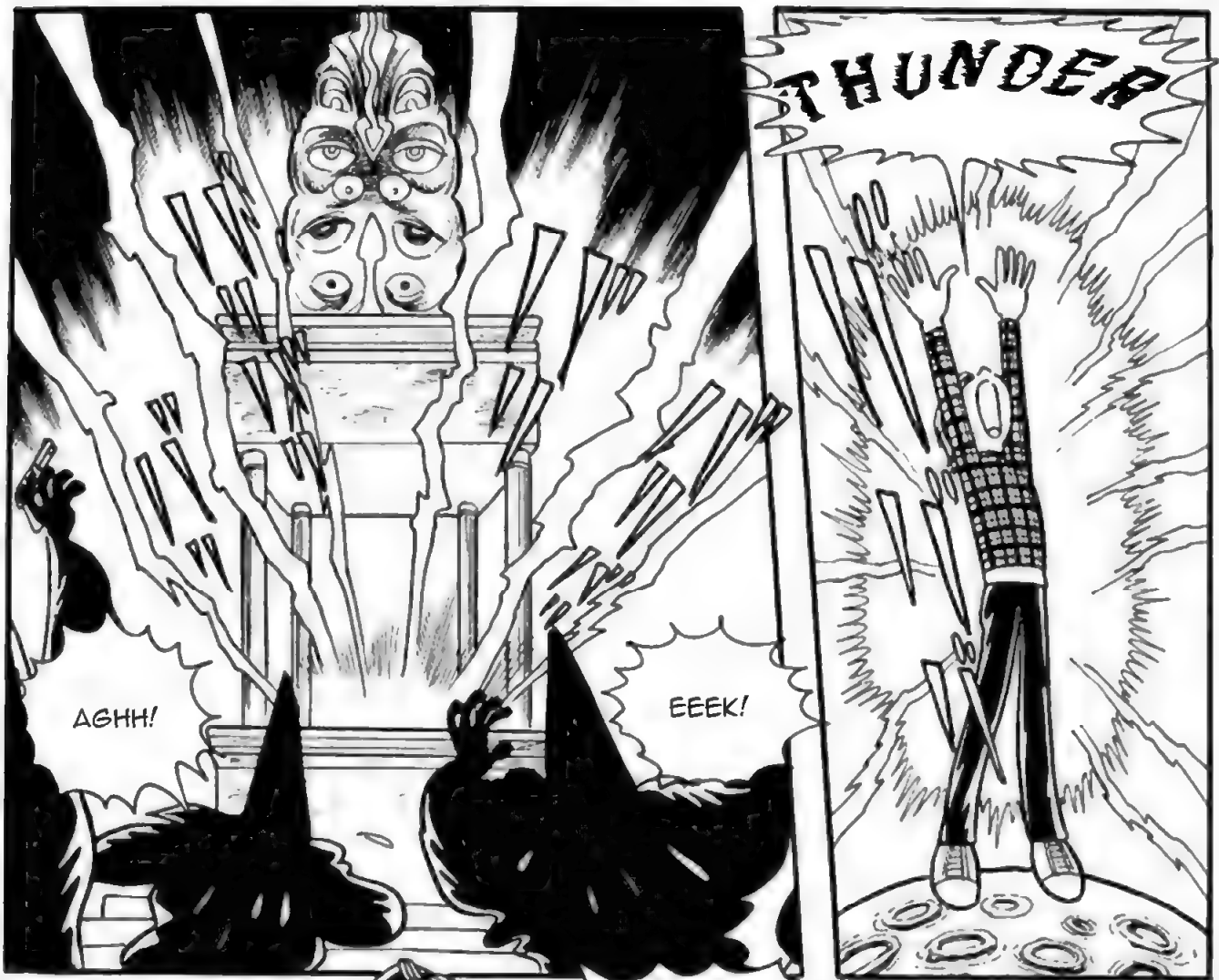


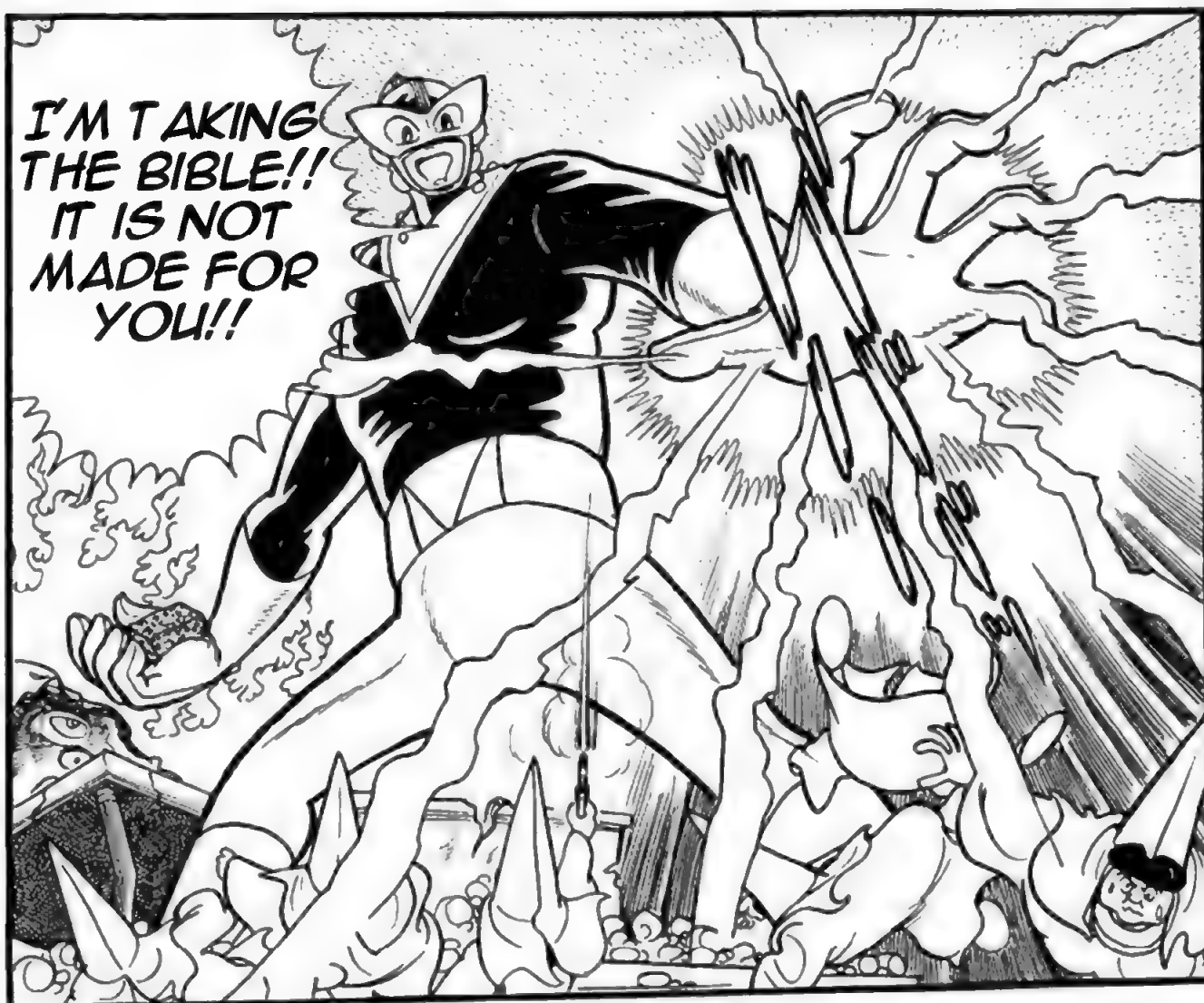


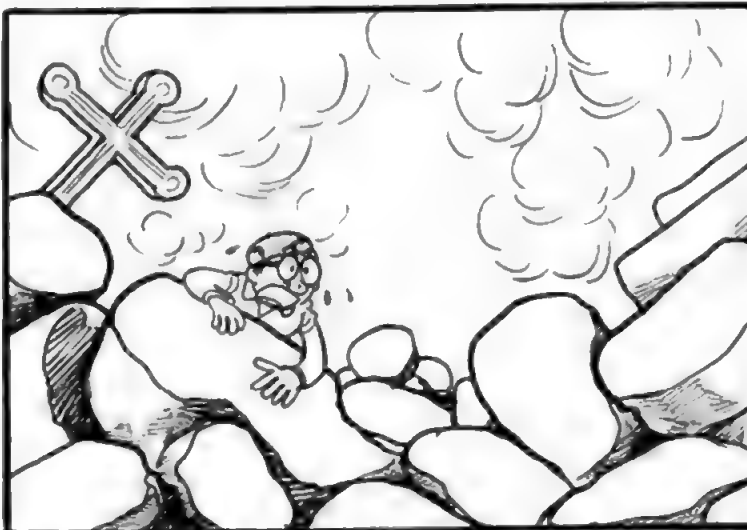




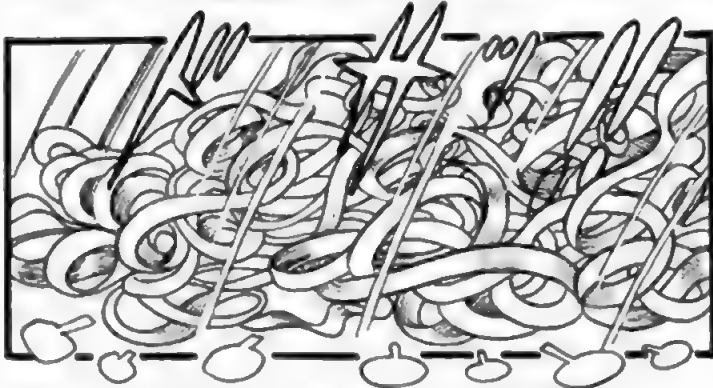
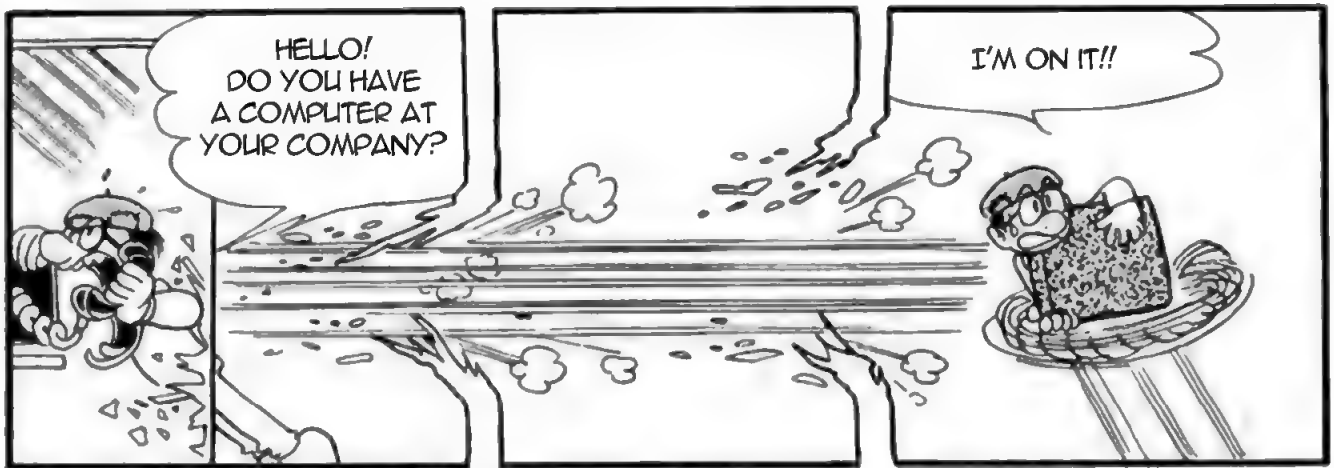




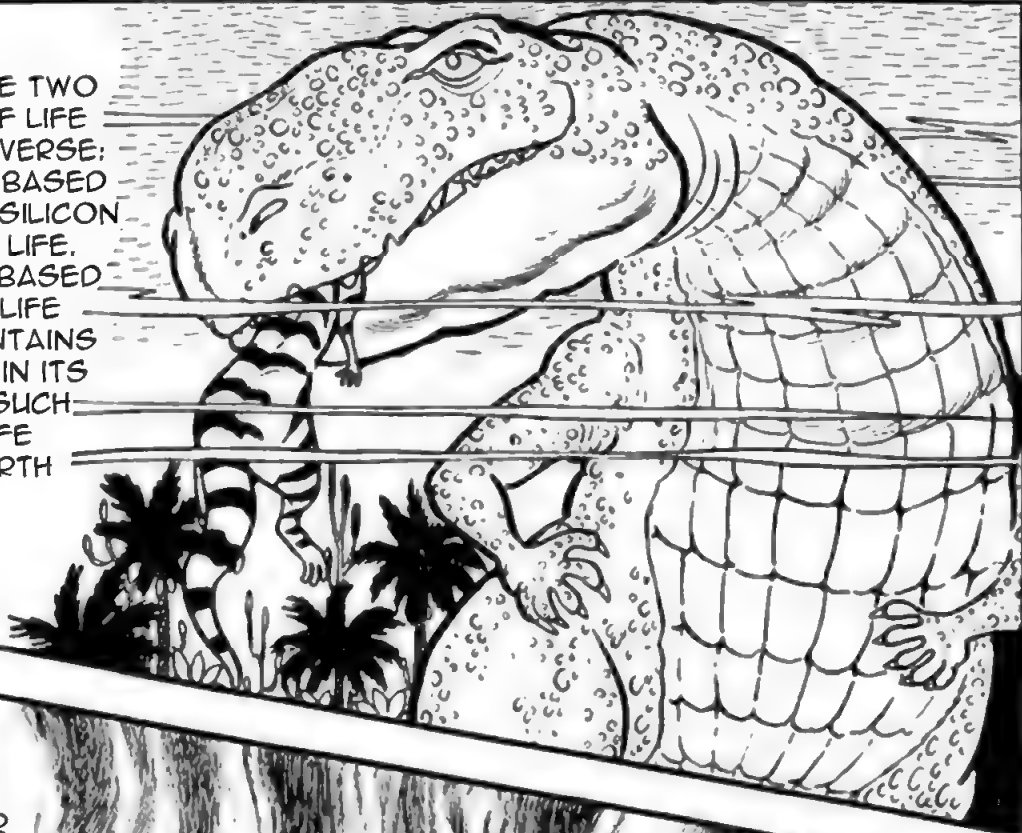








THERE ARE TWO  
TYPES OF LIFE  
IN THE UNIVERSE:  
CARBON-BASED  
LIFE AND SILICON  
-BASED LIFE.  
CARBON-BASED  
LIFE IS LIFE  
THAT CONTAINS  
CARBON IN ITS  
BODY, SUCH  
AS LIFE  
ON EARTH



THE BIBLE  
STATEMENT IS  
A LONG ONE,  
BUT HERE'S  
A QUICK  
SUMMARY



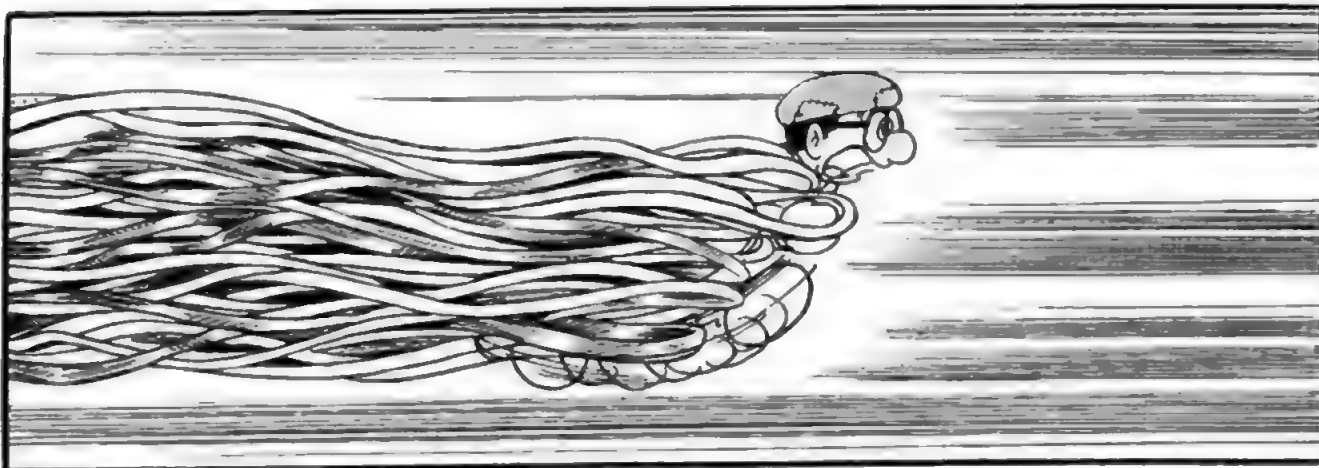
DEKANDER  
IS A  
SILICONE-  
BASED,  
LIVING GAS  
THAT CAN  
TURN  
CARBON-  
BASED LIFE  
INTO  
SILICON  
ROCKS



BUT THE SILICON-  
TYPE HAS SILICONES  
IN ITS BODY, SO  
IT'S A STONE-LIKE  
CREATURE THAT  
LIVES ON A MUCH  
HOTTER PLANET  
AND EATS FLUORINE  
AND AMMONIA  
INSTEAD OF  
OXYGEN

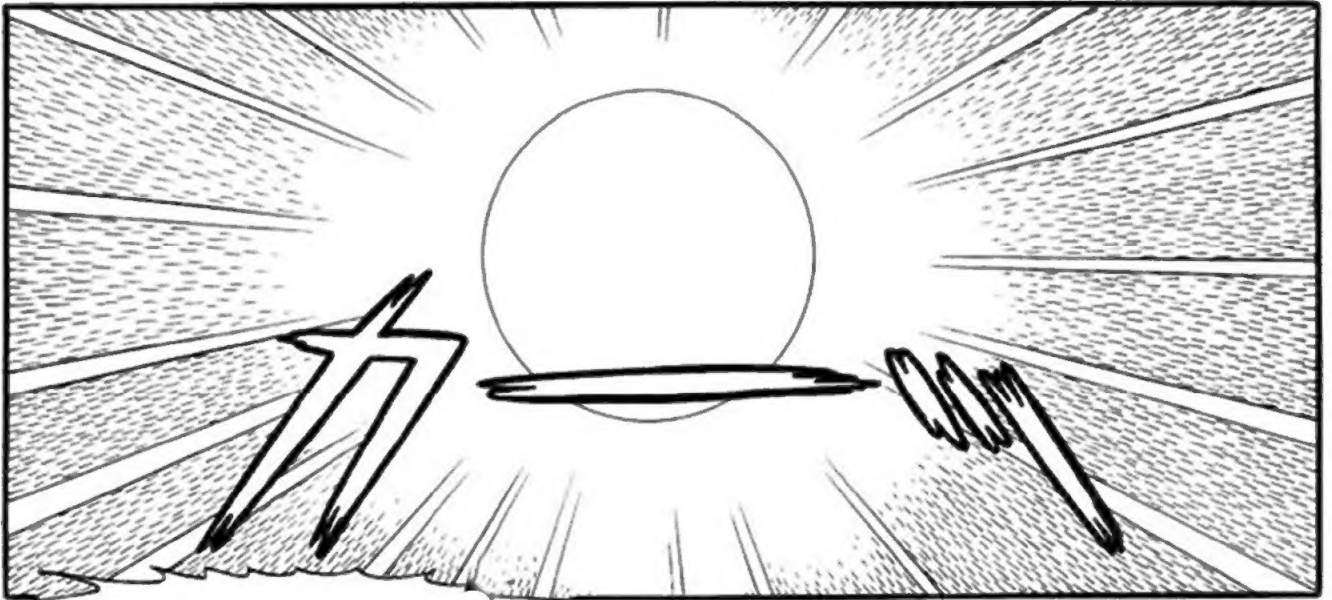
THE GAS OF DEKANDER  
IS LIKE THE GAS OF  
A COMET, WHICH CAN  
BE BLOWN ON THE  
SOLAR WINDS.  
ANYTHING THE GAS  
TOUCHES IS TURNED  
TO STONE











**GYAAAAHH!!**



